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Maverick pianist James Rhodes heads for Greenwich

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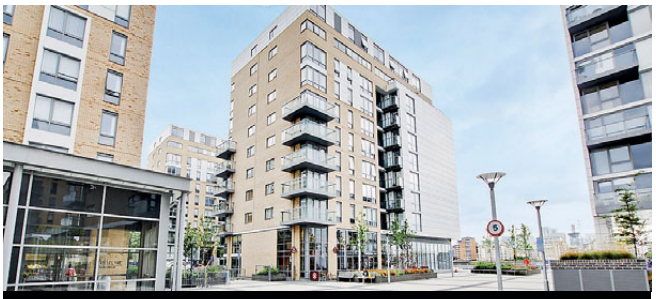

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Simon Hughes
Managing Director

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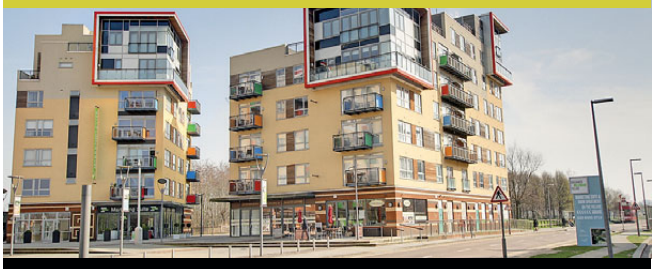

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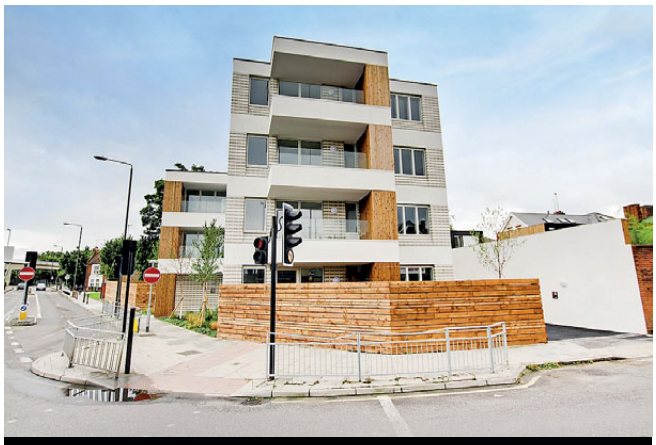

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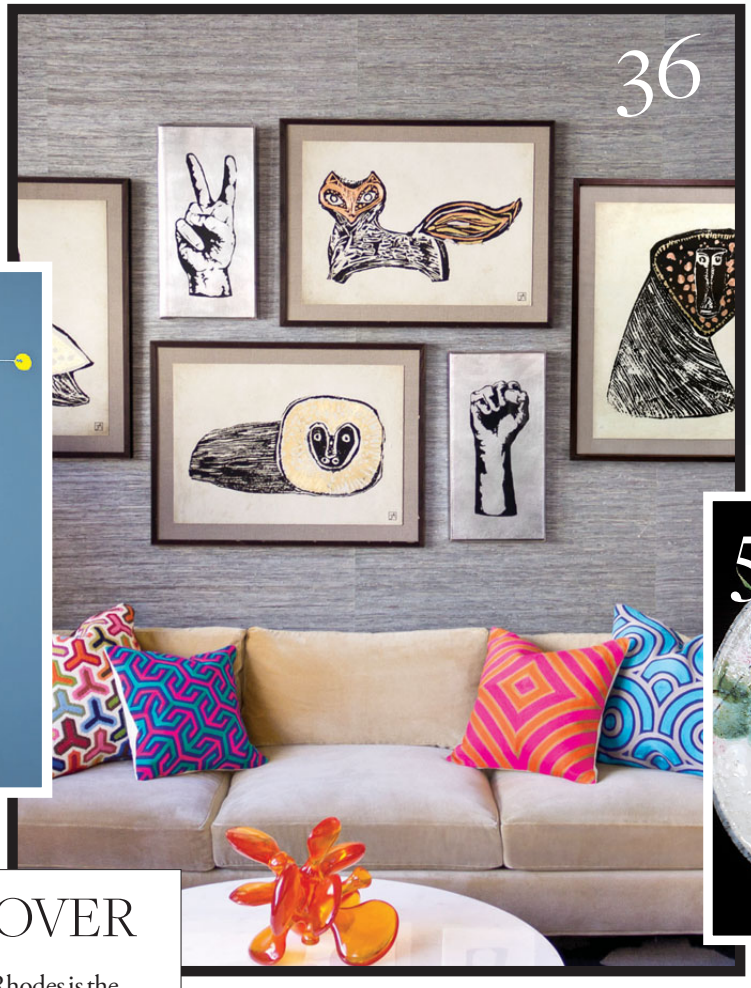

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The Guide resident

theresident.co.uk
Avon House (5th Floor), Kensington Village,
Avonmore Road, London W14 8TS; 020 7605 2200

Publishing Director
Caroline Vernhettes

Editor-in-Chief
Vicky Mayer

EDITORIAL

Group Editor Mark Kebble
Mark.Kebble@archant.co.uk
Editor Victoria Purcell
Victoria.Purcell@archant.co.uk
Art Director Andrew Pye
Andrew.Pye@archant.co.uk
Designer Joseph Ross
Acting Digital Editor Katie Jones

ADVERTISING

Commercial Director
Eddie Pearce
020 7605 2286

DISPLAY
Senior Advertising Manager Heather Jones-Hughes
Heather.Jones-Hughes@archant.co.uk
Account Manager Anagat Pathak
Anagat.Pathak@archant.co.uk
Senior Classified Executive Janine Goldich
Janine.Goldich@archant.co.uk
Education Executive Jodie Ryan
Jodie.Ryan@archant.co.uk
Education Executive Helen Crossman
Helen.Crossman@archant.co.uk
Sales Support & Subscriptions Dominique Quinlan
Dominique.Quinlan@archant.co.uk

PROPERTY
Property Sales Executive Raj Sangha
Raj.Sangha@archant.co.uk
Sales Support Co-ordinator Jessica Bardini
Jessica.Bardini@archant.co.uk

DISTRIBUTION
Logistics Manager Ryan Michael
Ryan.Michael@archant.co.uk

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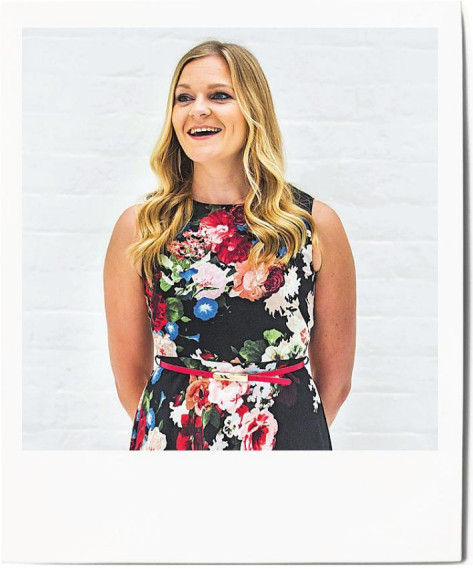
Letter from the EDITOR



ELEANOR TRAVERS (HAIR) AND ERIN FULLER (MAKE UP), GINA CONWAY PRIVÉ; GINACONWAYPRIVE.COM. PHOTO BY TOM DUNKLEY

We've got a pretty powerful interview within these page this month. The very talented classical pianist James Rhodes has a heck of a tale to tell, and it doesn't make for the most comfortable of listening – or reading. His memoir *Instrumental* made headlines when his ex-wife tried to ban its publication. James, who has been labelled a 'maverick', 'brave' and the 'Jamie Oliver of the grand piano', will be appearing at Greenwich Theatre this month to discuss his harrowing past, inbetween some inspiring piano performances. But don't comment on his casual attire – find out what happened when we called him 'trendy' on page 8.

We seem to be in a rather musical frame of mind this month. As our ears still ring with the sounds of Manic Street Preachers and Madness at OnBlackheath festival, we catch up with Chris Difford of Squeeze, those cheeky 'purveyors of south London pop'. Chris tells us about their new album and creating the soundtrack to Danny Baker's new sitcom, *Cradle to Grave*, on page 11.

We're also channelling our inner gallery curator this month, with a five-page special on how to bring art into your home with aplomb. Kara O'Reilly has grilled experts including interior designer Abigail Ahern and Jane Rockett of quirky homewares brand Rockett St George, on how to invest in the right pieces for your home (see page 36). We have the perfect place to start your collection – the Artful Pelican in Blackheath. Not only are the walls full of beautiful, quirky and complex works, the gallery exists to support the homeless and vulnerable, raising money from art sales for the charity Street Souls. Find out more about it on page 13.

If all this potent creativity takes it out of you, then you'll love our other special interiors features this month too – striking ways to embrace cosy carpets (page 26) and how to create the perfect boudoir (page 30). So snuggle up, hunker down, and enjoy the read!

Victoria

Victoria Purcell, Editor

Everyone's an art expert, or they are now... how to invest in the right pieces for your home, on page 36

Guy Awford showcases autumn's winning ingredient, wild mushrooms, on page 53

Get yourself a great night's sleep with our 'bed spread', on page 30

PIANO MAN

James Rhodes, 'the Jamie Oliver of the grand piano', heads for Greenwich Theatre for an evening of beautiful music and frank discussion

Words BEN WEST

James Rhodes' occupation as a globally successful concert pianist – despite having little formal musical training and only focusing on his music about seven years ago – is testament to his exceptional talent.

In 2010 he became the first classical musician to be signed by a major rock label, Warner Brothers, and his first album shot to the top of the iTunes classical chart. This is all in the face of a life plagued by depression, eating disorders, attempted suicides and mental institutions – triggered by being sexually abused over a five-year period by a teacher at his prep school.

The experience is harrowingly documented in his book, *Instrumental: a Memoir of Madness, Music and Medication*, which the *Mail on Sunday* called 'the publishing sensation of the year'. Publication was only permitted in May after the Supreme Court lifted an injunction his ex-wife had sought to have the autobiography banned for fear that their 12-year-old son could be psychologically harmed by the graphic detail. With its profound implications for free speech, James was supported at the trial by David Hare, Tom Stoppard, Stephen Fry and his old school friend, Benedict Cumberbatch.

On 17 October, James will discuss his controversial book and perform some classical piano pieces at Greenwich Theatre.

'It's a book about love and about music,' says James. 'It's a memoir, and talks about my life, some of which is wonderful, some painful. One of the best things for me is that I chose a Spotify playlist to go with the book. They are pieces not usually chosen or heard – unlike those terrible box sets of the same old popular classics.'

When did we start thinking it important to wear trendy trainers? It's irrelevant! I play in what I'm comfortable in

He's not visited the theatre yet and I explain that Greenwich is a wonderful venue, where the audience sits around an open thrust stage, allowing for a really good connection with the performer.

'Oh, that's great,' he says. 'I love that the event is going to be in a theatre. I'm horrified at the segregation of classical music, and indeed all music – you have classical concert halls, classical music shops... The music is the most important thing. Most concerts stop at the concert and music and tend to forget the audience. But to me, introducing the pieces, talking about these composers, the original rock stars, and what goes into writing the music, is important too.'

It's a bit of a shock when he divulges that he listens to Absolute Radio in the

James will discuss his controversial book, Instrumental, and perform some classical piano pieces at Greenwich Theatre in October

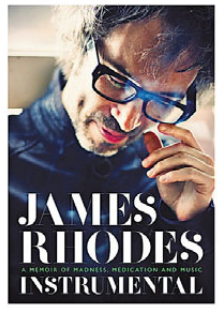
car. World-class classical musicians aren't supposed to listen to commercial pop radio, are they?

'My wife is very much into rock and electronic music and has introduced me to a lot of stuff,' he says.

He laughs when I ask what gives him more pleasure, playing or listening to music: 'I can't answer that – they're different! It's like asking a footballer whether he'd rather watch a great game or play five-a-side on a Saturday. They are different things. All I know is that playing and listening to music gives me goosebumps, I can escape.'

James is very unlike the stuffy middle-aged concert pianist stereotype. He's usually dressed down in something trendy. Indeed, the cover of his practically autobiographically named first album, *Razor Blades, Little Pills & Big Pianos*, looks more indie band than classical pianist. But when I suggest he must be reaching a younger audience because he dresses trendily, he almost explodes: 'It's irrelevant! I don't think it's vaguely important,' he says. 'When did we start thinking it important to wear f*cking trendy trainers? I play in what I'm comfortable in.'

Even so, he has been dubbed the 'Jamie Oliver of the grand piano' because of his desire to bring classical music back to the masses, and indeed recently said of the TV chef: 'What he has done is to make cooking easy, accessible and fun. I can think of nothing better than doing the same for classical music.'



What is he most proud of? His musical ability? His standing up for free speech? His breaking down of taboos around subjects like sexual abuse?

'Out of everything, I'm most proud of my son, and any father I hope would say that. Professionally? I suppose being able to bring difficult subjects into the open. It's not been comfortable, but I have a semi-pubic profile to be able to talk about these things. I've had thousands of messages from people since the book came out, some saying their son, husband or whatever has been through the same sort of things, and they've said "thank you". I am also proud that I survived the trial. It was an appalling 14 months.'

After such a whirlwind of a life, how does James see the future? 'Oh I don't know,' he says. 'Being married, trying to be the best husband and father, staying out of trouble, staying out of hospital. Focusing on what I love: my wife, my son, music and writing.'

Tickets for Instrumental: an evening with James Rhodes are £18.50. See greenwichtheatre.org.uk

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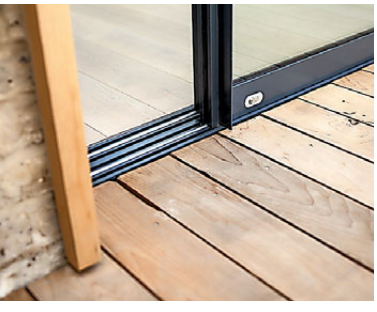

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Squeeze: (L-R) Glenn Tilbrook, Stephen Large, Chris Difford, Simon Hanson and Lucy Shaw

DEPTFORD DAYS

Squeeze, south London's enduring purveyors of pop, release a new album this month with a distinctly Deptford sound

Words VICTORIA PURCELL

Squeeze release their new album, *Cradle To The Grave*, on Friday 2 October. It's the first collection of new songs from Chris Difford and Glenn Tilbrook since 1998, some of which will feature in Danny Baker's forthcoming sitcom *Cradle To Grave*, based on his autobiography. Danny was brought up in Deptford – Squeeze's old stomping ground – and with the album being recorded in Charlton, *The Guide Resident* asks Chris Difford about those south east London vibes…

You grew up in the same area as Danny; did you discover any interesting parallels between your upbringings?
Danny and I went to the same school and consequently saw and shared all of the same stories. The teachers were the same and the atmosphere was totally captured by his wonderful book [*Going to Sea in a Sieve*]. I think a shared love of music came from the freedom we had at school.

Tell me about the Deptford of 1977 – the year you released your debut album…
It was a dirty old place full of rough-and-ready people who lived hand-to-mouth in the changing pace of hope. The pubs were great places to sit and soak up the stories, the market's always been a cross-pollination of cultures and the music shops were ready to rise to my demand of changing tastes, from Prog to Punk. I was walking with a swagger, we had a record out, there were punks everywhere; it was exciting.

This is your first collection of new songs since 1998 – has your approach to song writing changed?
We write more together than we used to, now seems like a good time to join our talents. Glenn is a good lyricist and for this album has brought lots to the table in a way perhaps in the past he might not have done. Writing the album, Glenn and I got on well, which bodes well for the future. This seems like a turning point for us as friends, but also for our music.

How would you describe the mood and sound of the new album?
Positive and present – it's a sound of intelligence and love. This is mainly because of the production, which Laurie [Latham, who co-produced the album] and Glenn paid close attention to. It's a good mood, it's a new mood and I'm very happy with the sound and the songs.

Is plenty of that old Squeeze magic in there or are you striving for something different?
We're not striving for something different, we're just hopeful that when we deliver we are on our game as much as possible. I'm not one for searching, I'm one for discovering. It's been a very changing Squeeze over the years and today I'm happy with what I hear.

The Cradle to the Grave tour comes to London on 15 October at the Royal Albert Hall and 17 October at Indigo O2. See squeezeofficial.com

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The Artful Pelican. Works by David Hardy can be seen on the right-hand wall

ART WORKS

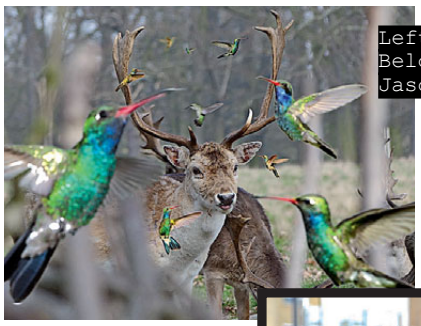
Blackheath's newest gallery, the Artful Peclican, supports the homeless and vulnerable through art and enterprise

Words VICTORIA PURCELL

The Artful Pelican, the newest addition to the parade of shops on Lee Road, is much more than a pretty face. This spacious gallery, full of beautiful pieces by a mix of homeless, emerging and established artists, is a grassroots project created to support the homeless and vulnerable.

Sir Ian McKellen himself was on hand to formally open the gallery in July, as a huge crowd of local residents, artists, volunteers and enthusiasts packed the gallery wall to wall. He uncovered the gallery's launch piece, Silvi Micalizio's colourfully painted fibreglass model of The Statue of Liberty, before delivering an impassioned speech: 'I support totally the charity that this gallery is designed to help,' he said. 'This kind of work has to be done not by the government, but by the imagination and generosity of people like the Coombe family.'

Gallery Director David Coombe, who founded Street Souls to help the homeless in 2007 (his father Don Coombe, founded the Coombe Trust to provide holidays for underprivileged families in 1957), had been harbouring the idea of opening a gallery for a while: 'The catalyst was [artist] David Hardy. David wanted to give me all the work he'd done [when he was made homeless] – "sell it, burn it, I'm not doing art anymore", he said. But fortunately I recognised that he was in a dark place so I stored his work for him and over the next few years we kind of nurtured him, got him painting again.



Left: Untitled by Afshin Feiz. Below: Sir Ian McKellen with Jason Constant on opening night

'We entered him into the annual Lloyd's art exhibition and he won Best Newcomer. I thought, there are many more of these talented artists out there and I wanted somewhere we could showcase them. My aim is to enable some of these people.'

The gallery is run by volunteers, meaning that any money made can be ploughed back into Street Souls. (The gallery hopes to cover its running costs through sponsorship and all exhibiting artists donate at least 25% of any sale. The aim is to raise about £40,000 a year.) David also hopes to create a studio at the back of the gallery where homeless artists will be provided with paints, canvases and hopefully tutors too.

'There's a talent out there,' says Gallery Curator Jason Constant, 'but you don't find a homeless artist who has their work with them, or has the ability to carry stuff to paint, so we want this to be a go-to place for people to feel safe in, to create in, and almost be a catalyst for them to start earning again so that they can become self-supporting.'

'Things are very much on the up for David Hardy and I hope that this will prove to be the case for some others too,' says David. 'Our aim, in the next six or seven months, is to host an exhibition with nothing but work by homeless artists.'

The gallery's next exhibition, *Isn't it Iconic (don't you think)*, opens in late September with iconic images of people, places and objects. Fifty per cent of the profits from sales will go to Street Souls, so go along, discover a new artist and be inspired by this fabulous, friendly cause.

143 Lee Road, Blackheath SE3 9DJ; 020 8852 0467; artfulpelican.com

PHOTOS BY PHILIP TENWICK

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{THE FINEST EVENTS IN LONDON THIS MONTH}

ELECTRIC GREENWICH

Alex Chinneck's new installation reflects the area's industrial heritage

Greenwich Peninsula has a new installation. Created for the London Design Festival by British sculptor Alex Chinneck, *A bullet from a shooting star* (above) – an inverted electricity pylon – will be illuminated at night, projecting a maze of latticed shadows onto Ordnance Crescent. Its sister installation, *Straight jacket star jumps* – a 20-metre-long curled up pylon – will be exhibited at NOW Gallery from 19 September until 10 January.

NOW Gallery, The Gateway Pavilions, Pavilion Square, Greenwich Peninsula SE10 0SQ; nowgallery.co.uk

Brockwell Lido's Fun Palace

Return of the Fun Palaces

Fun Palaces – inspired by theatre director Joan Littlewood and architect Cedric Price's idea for a 'laboratory of fun' – will once again pop up all over the country on the weekend of 3-4 October. The event, founded by writer Stella Duffy, will see the return of mermaids and magicians to Brockwell Lido as well as events at the Albany in Deptford, Greenwich Dance, West Norwood Library and more south London locations. To find your nearest event see funpalaces.co.uk

Online
For more October events check out theresident.co.uk

PICTURE PERFECT

Battersea will be buzzing from 22-25 October as the Affordable Art Fair celebrates its 50th UK edition. The fair, which brings over 100 contemporary art galleries together under one roof, gives serious collectors and first-time buyers alike the opportunity to browse an eclectic mix of original artworks from over 1,100 living artists. Art at the fair is priced between £100-£5,000, making it the ideal place to invest in new artists and well-known names.
Tickets are on sale now at affordableartfair.co.uk

Family Arts Festival

A magical story-telling show combining puppetry, music and circus launches the third annual Family Arts Festival at Greenwich Theatre in October. *The King of Tiny Things*, the story of two sisters who go on a moonlit adventure with a winged creature, was adapted by Metta Theatre company's artistic director with help from her three-year-old son.
26 October, 12noon & 3pm. To book call 020 8858 7755 or see greenwichtheatre.org.uk

ANGELIC LOOK

Dressed by Angels will open at the Old Truman Brewery on 2 October, a brand new interactive exhibition that tells the story behind Angel Costumiers, who have been involved in screen and theatre for 175 years. Tickets are available from dressedbyangels.co.uk

TOM PARKER / MARIA RIVANS, LIBERTY GALLERY / MATT CROCKETT

ARENA

Handy partners
Handmade in Britain, running from 8-11 October, has teamed up with the Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew, to showcase great craftsmanship. Work by the majority of the 150 exhibitors will never find its way to the average high street, making Handmade at Kew the place to head to for something unique. Tickets £16-18. See handmadeinbritain.co.uk

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Stepping out with Kinky Boots
The huge-hearted, high-heeled sensation *Kinky Boots* has arrived in London. No stranger to awards – the musical has won six Tonys including Best Musical – the show has now opened at the Adelphi Theatre. Factory owner Charlie Price is finding it difficult to live up to his father's expectations and maintain the family business, Price and Son. With the future of the factory hanging in the balance, the stimulus the shoe factory needs is found when Charlie sparks up an unlikely friendship with Lola, the glamorous high-heeled dancer who needs a new pair of stilettos. Take a step in the right direction and sometimes you discover that the best way to fit in is to stand out.
Kinky Boots will be on at the Adelphi Theatre until early 2016. The resident readers can save 5% when booking with Shows in London via theresident.co.uk/theatre or calling 020 3567 0620

Phill Jupitus captains the Cutty Sark
Phill Jupitus, star of BBC2's *Never Mind the Buzzcocks*, West End productions *Hairspray* and *The Producers* and Radio 4's award-winning *News Quiz*, hosts a night of stand-up comedy and poetry onboard the Cutty Sark on Sunday 18 October 2015. Tickets £20.
See rmg.co.uk/tickets or call 020 8312 6608 to book

THE OTHER SIDE

The UK's leading artist fair returns to the Old Truman Brewery for its 10th anniversary edition from 15-18 October. The Other Art Fair has fast become the satellite arts destination to Frieze London, presenting work by 130 artists from across the globe alongside an action-packed programme of events. Full details can be found at theotherartfair.com

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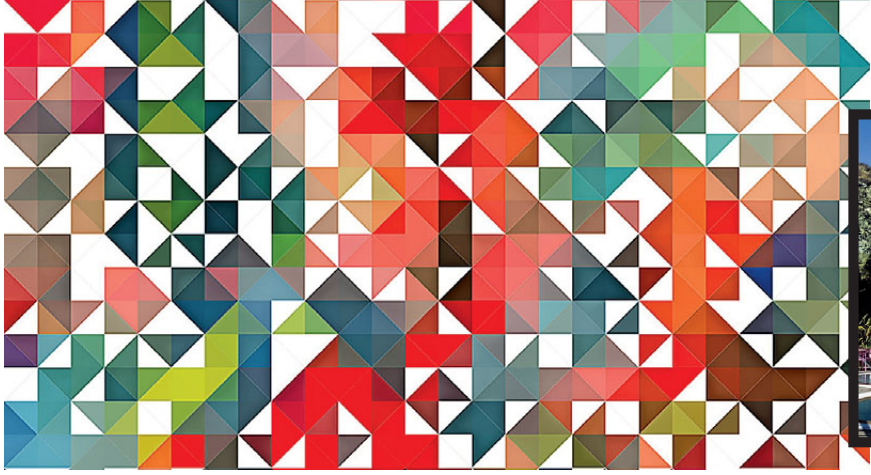

Libby Heaney's Untitled 3, far left, and Marisa J. Futernick's Madonna Inn, above

CONTEMPORARY ART'S RISING STARS

Multiplied Director Murray Macaulay recommends three names to look out for at Christie's in October

Multiplied is an art fair with a difference – it focuses on editions. Many of the artists represented are prominent figures in the contemporary art scene, but each year we also select the most promising new talent:

Libby Heaney has had an unusual journey to becoming an artist having previously completed a PhD in quantum physics, and her works creatively respond to complex scientific theory. I like her beautiful visual conundrums which are both elusive and compelling.

Adham Faramawy graduated from the Royal Academy in 2013, and was shortlisted for the Converse/Dazed Emerging Artists Award in 2014. Adham's work explores the interaction between technology and cultural identity.

Marisa J. Futernick's work is concerned with the American Dream – the tension between the ideal and reality. Madonna Inn, an archival print from a 35 mm. slide, captures the strange allure of American kitsch, its outrageous flamboyance and artificiality.

Murray Macaulay is the Director of Multiplied and a senior prints specialist at Christie's. Now in its 6th year, Multiplied returns to Christie's South Kensington from 16-18 October; multipliedartfair.com

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Richard (left) and James

GRAND DESIGNS

Local architectural designers James Webster and Richard Bridges on the challenges of redeveloping your own home and why energy efficiency makes sense

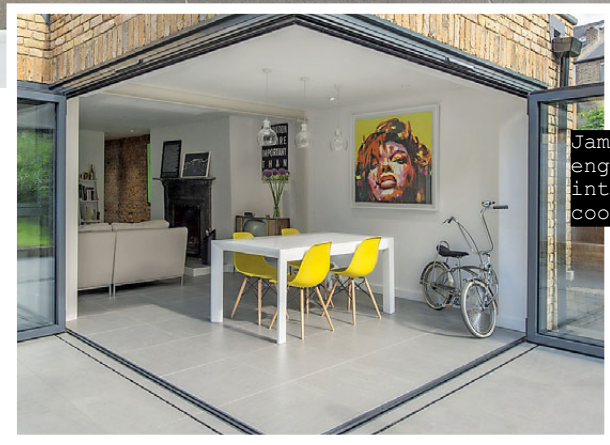
Words VICTORIA PURCELL

Designing your home is a dream for many of us. And if you happen to be an architectural designer, it's the perfect opportunity to create that no-holds-barred Grand Designs home – a palace of engineered timber and glass. That is, of course, unless you're redeveloping your London pad for sale. This is where clever architecture and knowledge of the local market overtake blind ambition.

James Owen Webster of East Dulwich-based Alexander Owen Architecture, a business he set up with his friend and fellow designer Richard Alexander Bridges two years ago, has managed to strike the balance between cutting-edge design and marketability when redeveloping his East Dulwich home. The two-bedroom period flat in a conservation area has a spectacular open-plan kitchen diner that flows right out into the garden without any pesky interfering walls, thanks to some clever engineering. The kitchen extension swaps the rear and side walls for bi-folding doors which, when fully opened, give the impression of a floating roof. Now that's how to bring the outdoors in.

A side return extension with skylights created a more spacious kitchen area with plenty of natural light, and while the ground floor kitchen/reception/dining room is all open plan, the exposure of a strip of brickwork from the original exterior wall creates a subtle division of spaces. James also left some of the new steelwork exposed – a rare feature in a period property – and added more insulation than building regulations require to keeping the house warm in the winter and cool in the summer. He also added underfloor heating in the open-plan living area and the bathroom.

You can have style and comfort while lowering your carbon footprint, but James admits that the extra design work,



James combined clever engineering and stylish interior design to create a cool, contemporary home

engineering and energy efficiency measures make the price point 'punchy'. Still, at the time of going to press a buyer had made an offer on the place. So how do you find that balance between creating a spectacular home, marketing the property at the right price and return on investment?

'If you're in a good area where property prices are going up you can afford to put a bit more money into the design to make it unique,' says James. 'You may narrow your market, but someone will walk in and fall in love with it. You're elevating the wow factor. When you walk in and you see the doors wide open, all the lights are on on the patio and it's got a great garden that's not overlooked, you can't really argue it. There aren't really any two-bed flats in Dulwich that are like it.

'We're also the age of the likely buyer, so if we know what we like and what the market is doing, we're designing it specifically for that market,' he adds. 'Exposing the steel and the brickwork was pushing it a bit, but knowing that people are moving here from Hoxton and Dalston, looking for something design-led, and that this two-bed flat could have a little family in it. It's looking at the ceiling price in the area and knowing your market and sticking to that and pushing the boundaries a little.'

How do you find that balance between creating a spectacular home and return on investment?

'When you're designing it and you own the property you can control everything from the first design stages right up until the build,' adds Richard. 'You can work closely with the builders to manage all the costs and work out which areas you're going to put the money into.'

James has added some colour-pop furnishings and carefully placed artworks to add to the contemporary appeal of the property, but one assumes that, as architectural designers, interiors aren't generally their remit?

'It depends,' says James. 'Sometimes interior design can be architecture – it might be that we look at a particular flooring material or we may expose rafters, so a piece of the architecture becomes the interior.'

'We always design with the interior in mind,' adds Richard. 'We ask what the client wants to get out of the property. How do they want to use the space? Do ›

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Alexander Owen Architecture won an award for this super low-carbon house in Peckham (and below)

they want the roof light over the dining table in the kitchen? So the interior informs the exterior design.'

'We consult with our clients all the way through so they always feel like they've had ownership of the project,' says James. 'It's their home, we don't prescribe or dictate space, it's always an open conversation about how they will use it – do you want a galley kitchen, an island, a breakfast bar? How are you going to live in that space? That's the key.'

Alexander Owen Architecture is steadily building a reputation as an eco-practice. A recent project in Peckham, an extension and eco-retrofit, is a great example of this. The home belongs to a director of Parity Projects, a domestic energy consultancy, who was looking to create a demonstration house for his company by creating a future-proof home with a low carbon footprint.

'It's a very very efficient house,' says James of the project. It went from EPC Rating F to just under Rating A. The retrofit included internal and external wall insulation, upgraded windows and doors throughout, solar thermal panels to produce hot water and photovoltaic panels to produce electricity.'

The project won the Best Domestic Retrofit at the Greenbuild Awards 2014, and was also shortlisted for the Architecture Journal Retrofit Awards 2013 and the CIBSE Building Performance Awards 2014. James and Richard have also spoken about their work at RIBA seminars on retrofitting historic buildings and low-carbon building design.

If you're going to build an extension you might as well make it energy efficient

'You can feel that there's something going on in the market,' says James, when I ask why they're making efforts as a company to promote low-carbon living. 'But also it's just a natural progression. If you're going to build an extension you might as well make it energy efficient because it doesn't have to cost a whole lot more. You just start with passive systems such as more insulation in the walls and making sure the windows are more energy efficient. Then, if it's feasible, you can start to plug in active technologies like solar panels.'

James and Richard work with an energy consultant to analyse the carbon footprint of a house, producing a report with the costs of various eco-retrofit installations, what carbon it will save you and how long it will take to recoup those costs in energy savings. You can then use that information to decide how energy efficient you want your home to be.

'Once we get that report back we can assess with the client what their goals are,' says James, 'whether it's to make the house warmer in the winter or cooler in the summer, do they want to reduce their energy bills or do they want to invest in an actively low-carbon lifestyle?'

'When you extend your kitchen, for example, you're basically ripping apart most of your house,' says Richard. 'So you might as well go that extra step, adding insulation and that kind of thing, it's just a lot more cost efficient.'

After all this talk of James' home and ripping places apart, I ask Richard if he has any 'grand' designs on his home: 'I'm living in a building site at the moment,' he says. And there you have it, the life of an architectural designer.

To find out more, see aoarchitecture.co.uk

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ANIMAL MAGNETISM
Animal prints have grown up of late to offer you an altogether more sophisticated, yet fun, way to update your home. The Dalmata, a minimalist, Scandi-inspired rug from Art Hide, features black and white Argentinean cowhide tiled into a Dalmatian-style pattern.
From £650 (2m x 1.4m). Custom sizes available on request. See arthide.co

SOFT TOUCH

Come winter, you can't beat a good fluffy pile underfoot. Here are four stylish ways to bring comfort into your home

Words VICTORIA PURCELL

COLOUR ME HAPPY
How better to add a splash of colour to your abode than with the aptly named Carnival rug by Paul Smith? Hand knotted in Tibetan wool, the layered, complex pattern is softer than Paul's classic stripes and was inspired by film transparencies and the vibrant movement of carnival dancers.
£835 per sq m from therugcompany.com

FRONT RUNNER
The humble stair runner is back with a contemporary bang. This elegant 100% wool flatweave design in Fitzroy Black is part of Roger Oates' London collection, named after old London telephone districts. It's made in a blend of Cheviot Wool with that quintessentially British herringbone texture.
£118 per linear metre (70cm wide) from rogeroates.com

MIDCENTURY MODERN
Margo Selby's woven textiles are in high demand, and this Fair Isle Reiko Design, part of the Quirky B collection for Alternative Flooring, works in either contemporary or classic surrounds. Hence they're perfect for the mid-century modern enthusiast. The geometric design of this Axminster carpet, which reflects the structured nature of weaving, is just crying out to be paired with an Ercol sofa.
£95.85 per sq m from alternativeflooring.com

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SLEEP *in* STYLE

Give your boudoir a glamorous makeover with decadent beds and luxurious bed linen

Story KARA O'REILLY

Clockwise from top left

FUTURE HEIRLOOM
The bed is the centrepiece of your bedroom look, so go all-out and invest in a striking statement piece. **Leafed Georgian four-poster bed, from £6,425, andsotobed.co.uk**

WELL DRESSED
The White Company is a fail-safe for goes-with-everything bedding. Try hanging low pendants as bedside lights. **Suffolk bed in Natural, from £1,750; Dorchester bed linen, £35-£190; Berkeley quilt and cushion, £30-£350; glass Orb chandeliers, from £175 each. All from The White Company, intu Bromley, High Street BR1 1DN; 020 3700 4690; thewhitecompany.com**

PATTERN LOOKS
Invest in some designer wallpaper and create a feature wall behind your bed head. **Templeton bed, £3,845; Malachite wallpaper, £300 per roll, and Turner Pagoda side table, £1,650. All uk.jonathanadler.com**

MODERN CLASSIC
The four-poster gets updated for the 21st century. **Pinner four-poster king-size bed, £985; bedside table, £245; all other items from heals.co.uk**

BOUTIQUE HOTEL BEDDING
Layer up co-ordinating, high-thread-count bed linens for a luxurious boutique hotel feel. **Jasmine housewife pillowcase, £15; Jasmine oxford pillowcase, £20; Jasmine double duvet cover, £85; Merle pillowsham, £50; Riviera white cushion, £35; Riviera white throw, £150, and Talcy white throw, £120. All from yourfable.co.uk**

'French-inspired beds are still going down a storm due to their timeless appeal and lovely boutique-hotel feel.' Charlie Marshall, Founder, Loaf

HOW TO MAKE A BED FIT FOR CLARIDGE'S

Anne Barnes, Deputy Head of Housekeeping at Claridge's hotel, gives us her top tips on creating a five-star bedroom

All our specially-made Sleepeezee beds are made up with a thick mattress topper and a mattress protector on top of that. We use king-size 13.5 tog feather and down duvets, accompanied by four generous, extra-large feather and down pillows (50x100cm). These are then dressed in 300 thread count embroidered linen which is made in Italy for us by linen specialists, Rivolta. Hospital corners are a must when tucking in sheets, while a cashmere throw placed across the end of the bed is a lovely way to finish.

You should change your sheets weekly and wash them at 60 degrees. Try to dry your linen outside if possible, and don't over-dry it in a tumble dryer as this makes it difficult to press. Freshly ironed bedding is lovely, although this is easy for us to do as we have a large professional presser. You should fold your sheet or duvet cover in half, press one side and then the other. ›

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Button & Sprung is right on-trend with its range of shaped, upholstered and boldly coloured headboards. Even better, you can customise them to suit your own style. **Rose double divan bed, from £895, buttonandsprung.com**

GO FOR GLAMOUR
With a nod to elegant Art Deco styling, high-end bed supremo Simon Horn's new Valentino design is hand-made from antiqued glass. **Valentino super king bed, £6,700; Valentino bedside cabinet, £1,995, and Valentino four-drawer chest, £3,300. All simonhorn.com**

'Opt for headboards which offer interesting details such as a button-back or curved style.' Adam Black, Co-Founder, Button & Sprung

SHOPPING ESSENTIALS FOR A LUXE BEDROOM

Olivia bedside table, £225, loaf.com

Astier de Villatte and John Derian Provincetown candle, £120, liberty.co.uk

Velvet ottoman, £395, Oliver Bonas, 26 Lordship Lane SE22 8EW; oliverbonas.com

Essence chandelier, £490, frenchbedroom company.co.uk

Madison mirror, £375, The White Company, intu Bromley, High Street BR1 1DN; thewhitecompany.com

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Our team is on hand to ensure that your project runs smoothly

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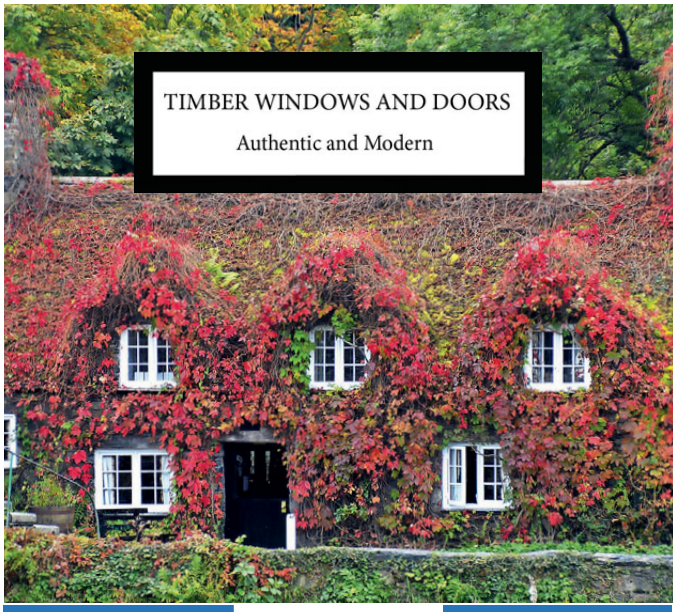

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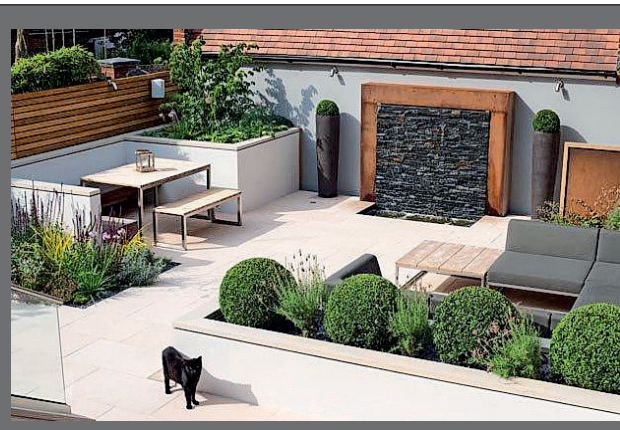

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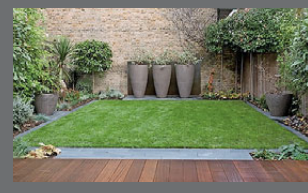

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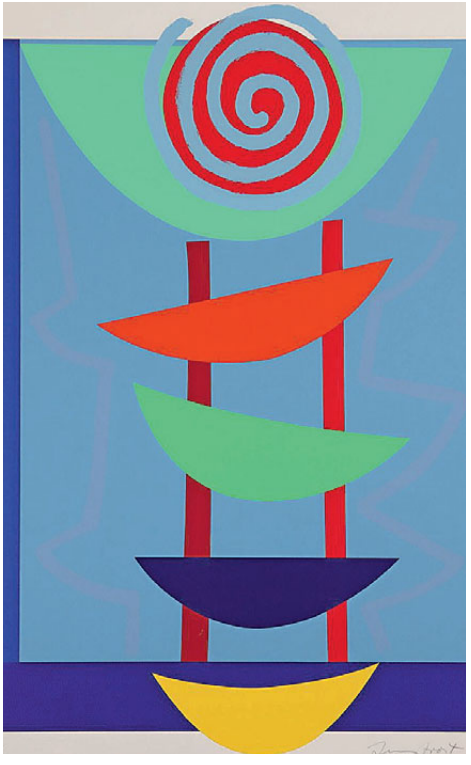
THE FINE ART OF DISPLAY

Want to make your home a work of art? Then follow these inspiring tips from our experts

Story: KARA O'REILLY



Terry Frost at Caroline Wiseman

BUYING ART

THE GALLERIST: CAROLINE WISEMAN

Art dealer for 25 years who advises you on buying pieces by the modern masters (carolinewiseman.com)

You should buy art because you love the work. If you buy through an established dealer, you know you will be buying something that has lasting decent value with all the supporting documentation. Don't buy something because you think you should or because you think it is good value. It's got to look good in your house, so think about where you are going to put it.

Buy art because you love it and invest in a major name

Make friends with a dealer – if they know what kind of work you are interested in, they will invite you to appropriate show openings and let you know when they have new pieces in by artists you like.

Go along to an art fair, such as the London Art Fair, because it's a good way to see a lot of decent galleries in one place. The good thing about fairs is that they vet the dealers who take part.

Never buy anything without looking at it – certainly not from auction or over the internet – as condition is terribly important. The internet is OK for something fun and cheap, but you shouldn't buy a piece by, for example, Terry Frost off eBay.

Original prints – which are original works of art made in an edition – are a good way to buy art inexpensively. I'm a bit of a purist and I would say to go for prints, such as etchings, where the artist has got their hands dirty making it. Don't buy prints that are in runs of more than 100-200.

Invest in a major name – the problem is that if the artist isn't well-known, the work won't have a lasting value, other than to you. If you go off it or move house, there is nothing you can do with it. If you buy something by a name, it will have a value, even if it is what you paid for it, and you can often sell it back to the gallery you bought it from or via auction.

›

If your backdrop is neutral, you can go to town with the art you choose to display

THE PRINT EXPERT: MARK WILSON

Owns the Cross Street Gallery, specialising in prints by modern British artists (artforsale.co.uk)

Go for limited-edition originals. These are original works by the artists themselves. Artists do prints for a variety of reasons. Some are fascinated by the printing process itself, while for others prints are their way of making their work more accessible. For example, you can still get a Picasso print (from a large edition, un-numbered) for around £1,000 because Picasso was a prolific print-maker.

In terms of authenticity and paperwork, the print itself is generally the paperwork. As far as modern prints go, they will be signed and they will be numbered and that number will be a limited-edition, 24 of 100 for example. Look for editions that are not too big.

If you want to safeguard your money, look for big names, but you don't need to spend a fortune. You will not get an original work for £1,500, but that will buy you an original print. Just be a little careful with prolific artists – if an edition is of 500 or the price is under £1,000, be wary.

Gallery openings can be a good place to buy as the gallery will have made an effort to source a variety of work for the show. And if you want to try for a discount, do it in low-season – basically school holidays and post-Christmas.

You can still get a Picasso print for around £1,000

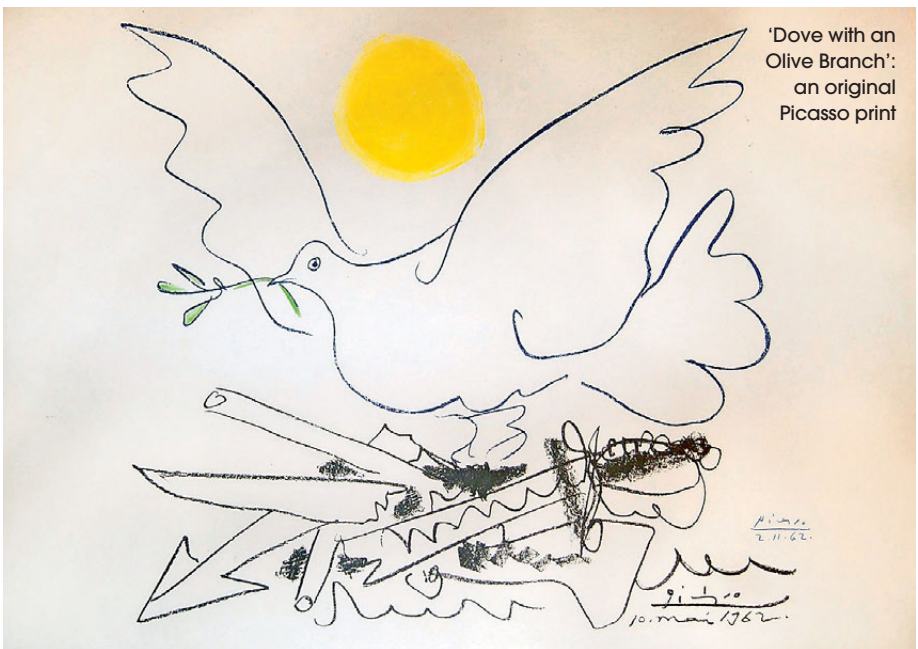
THE INTERNET ENTREPRENEUR: SARAH RYAN

Founder of New Blood Art, which showcases and sells the work of art school graduates, a great way to start collecting original art (newbloodart.com)

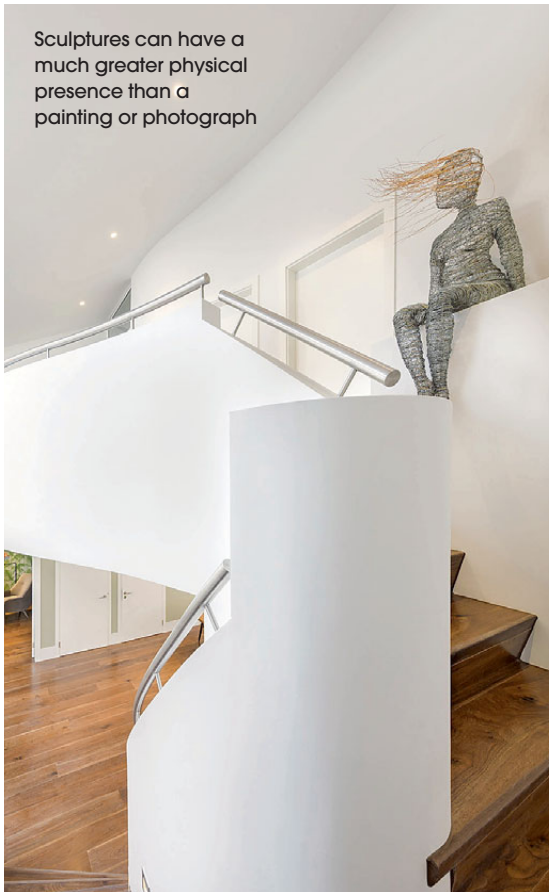
Trust your instincts when buying art – I often hear people say 'I don't know anything about art' and they therefore feel they are not in a position to trust their judgment. But if you feel drawn to something and you are curious about it, then have faith and buy it. It's so much nicer to have some personally selected original artwork than a safe collection of reproduced images that others will also own.

To find new – and potentially great – artists, a good place to start is at one of the many art schools. Whilst an artist may have innate talent, really good art comes from those who have also been rigorously trained, who are disciplined, and truly passionate and completely committed to their practice.

Buying art by emerging artists really is a great entry point to collecting a wide variety of works. Look out for artists who are applying for prizes, funding, residencies and competitions. It shows that they want to raise their profile, indicating an artist committed to developing their work. Buying a student's work is buying at the best value in the market: £500 should get you a decent-sized oil on canvas.



'Dove with an Olive Branch': an original Picasso print



Sculptures can have a much greater physical presence than a painting or photograph

THE FINE ARTIST: JUSTINE ASPREY

The practicing sculptor on how to go about commissioning an artist (justineasprey.com)

If you are thinking of commissioning a piece from a sculptor, look at the other sculptures the artist has made and make sure you're familiar with his or her style. A sculptor won't want to compromise his or her artistic integrity, so it's important that you commission someone whose style you love, rather than trying to encourage a sculptor to create a piece in a totally different style (an approach that's likely to lead to frustration and disappointment all round). Always meet the artist and don't hesitate to ask questions about the creative process. Even if you don't know precisely what you want (the size, material, finish etc), it's worth speaking to the artist because you'll gain a clearer idea after proper discussion. Be prepared for the process to take time, but it will be well worth the wait.

One of the great things about owning sculpture is the many different places you can display it. There are endless possibilities. A doorway can create a natural frame for a sculpture, ensuring that it's the first thing the eye is drawn to upon entering a room. A piece of sculpture can introduce a welcome splash of colour or a contrasting shape to a room, really adding visual appeal.

Menagerie wall prints from Jonathan Adler

Numbers, Coordonne Ceylan by Paper Moon

DISPLAYING ART

THE INTERIOR DESIGNER: ABIGAIL AHERN

Influential interiors guru, boutique owner and author, who has plenty of nifty ideas on displaying art (abigailahern.com)

How you arrange pictures can have as much impact as the artworks themselves. While some statement pieces deserve to be hung alone, others (such as drawings, photos and small-scale prints) work best in groups, clustered by a staircase, above a sofa or simply strung along a wall. The important thing to remember is that the images together should create a visual rhythm that is greater than if each one were hung separately.

Images grouped together should create a visual rhythm

When placing art around furniture go with your intuition: lowering an image to waist height relates it to, say, the sofa. But if you want to draw the eye upwards to highlight an architectural detail perhaps, then hang your picture higher to help accent it.

If you're hanging just one picture or a little row of pictures, for example, be sure to hang at eye level. Too high or too low and the wall will look unbalanced. Horizontal or vertical lines of pictures, hung with ample breathing space in between, create a very modern look. They are fab for transitional areas such as hallways, as they have the effect of leading the eye along the space – just don't squash them too tightly together.

It's not just about the art, the frame is important too. Mix and match modern with traditional, metal with distressed gold. It all helps up the visual interest. ›

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THE MODERN MURALIST: TOM PICKFORD

The digital print specialist from Surface View gives his tips on making the most of your wall space (surfaceview.co.uk)

Unifying themes can help set the tone of a room. Bringing together retro photography, painted landscapes, or classic portraiture will help give your room identity. Why not try to achieve a gallery effect by hanging together art work with similar themes?

Go BIG with full-on wall art. Our most popular products are our full wall murals that cover a whole wall to make a stunning feature. You can choose your favourite masterpieces from The National Gallery or a classic retro photograph from Slim Aarons from our ranges, but you can also use your own imagery. Be bold and you'll be rewarded.

You don't have to commit long-term: some of the best examples of displaying artwork in homes use shelves or sideboards to prop up framed posters, prints or artworks. If you want to live with something for a while, try it out in this way. You can create some beautiful results by propping instead of hanging.

Go big with full-on wall art. Be bold and you will be rewarded

Bathers at Asnières by Georges Seurat, from Surface View

Online
For more great tips on art at home see theresident.co.uk

Rockett St George's Modern Global Shelf

THE STYLIST: JANE ROCKETT

Co-founder of Rockett St George on how to pull together a varied mix of objects and images (rockettstgeorge.co.uk)

The first task is to ensure that you are creating a coherent collection. By this I mean collating your artwork and editing it by taking away anything that doesn't fit in. This will make choosing the format in which you want to display it – walls, shelf or mantle and so on – much easier. Use odd quantities; it just looks better. Straight lines also make your display look slick. If you are planning on creating a picture wall, make sure you have a spirit level and tape measure to hand – it really will pay off.

Be out of the ordinary and experiment with what you have. You can do something different by picking out an ordinary object and displaying it in a way that brings out its unexpected beauty.

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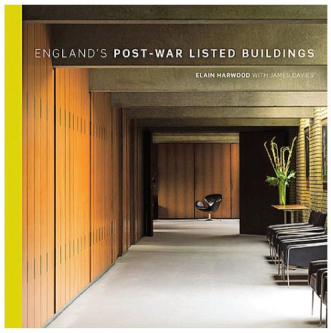
Southern comfort

Do South in Crystal Palace relaunches as the Do South Shop in September. As well as a revamped showroom where you can browse owner Freddie Oke's carefully curated collection of contemporary homewares, there's also a new retail website. The relaunch on 24 September – a special evening of canapés and live music by Freddie himself for loyal customers and industry members, sponsored by Brother's Cider – will see the introduction of new pieces including a bespoke sofa covered in a new fabric by New York-based 'doodle' artist Jon Burgerman for Kirkby Design, the new technologically advanced Aerial light by Jake Dyson and beautifully crafted wooden furniture by Ethnicraft.
Do South Shop, 2 Westow Street SE19 3AH; 020 8771 0500; dosouthshop.com



History book

England's Post-War Listed Buildings by Elain Harwood, with photographs by James O. Davies (Batsford, £40), is addictive, covering 650 eclectic and interesting places from telephone boxes to concert halls. It is an encyclopaedic overview of how architectural styles have evolved in the years since 1945, with a succinct synopsis on each building and why it was listed. Buy it for £35 (inc UK p&p) by calling 0844 576 8122 and quoting CH1939 or via store.pavilionbooks.com

Mini Trend: Dachshunds

Small Hot Dog tray, £22, rorydobner.com

Dachshund cotton tea towel, £13.50, fenellasmith.com

Rex table lamp, £35, next.co.uk

HOMES *NOTEBOOK*

Kara O'Reilly brings you the latest interior news

PRECIOUS STONES

Sculptural jeweller Lara Bohinc has teamed up with the stone specialists Lapicida to create a striking range of tables that really are out of this world. The Lunar Collection takes inspiration from the planets, and each piece showcases Bohinc's signature motifs and Lapicida's marbles. Made to order from lapicida.com and larabohinc.com

PSSST: It's showtime! This month's must-visits are the Classic Car Boot sale at King's Cross on 3-4 Oct (vintagebyhemingway.co.uk); the Mid-Century Show East on 11 Oct (modernshows.com); and the Pavilion of Art and Design (PAD) held in Berkeley Square 14-18 Oct (pad-fairs.com).

Ian Dunn Woodwork and Design

Ian Dunn Woodwork and Design, an independent cabinet-making business located in East Dulwich, has a wealth of experience working on projects with both clients and architects. Winner of the Wood Awards in both 2009 and 2010, the company provides a complete, professional service tailored to your individual needs, creating unique designs ranging from the traditional to the ultra modern.

4 Goose Green Trading Estate, 47 East Dulwich Road SE22 9BN; 020 8613 1781; iandunn.com

Greenwich Cornice

Greenwich Cornice is an established supplier of high quality authentic period plaster mouldings, including coving and ceiling roses. The team's extensive knowledge and experience ensures a high level of customer satisfaction by providing a perfect solution to your design requirements. The company's master fitters ensure a professional finish to any new or existing installation regardless of size, shape or style. Visit the website to browse the extensive range of plaster mouldings on offer.

422 Lee High Road SE12 8RW; 020 8226 4077; greenwichcornice.co.uk

Local Essentials

The Dovetail Joint

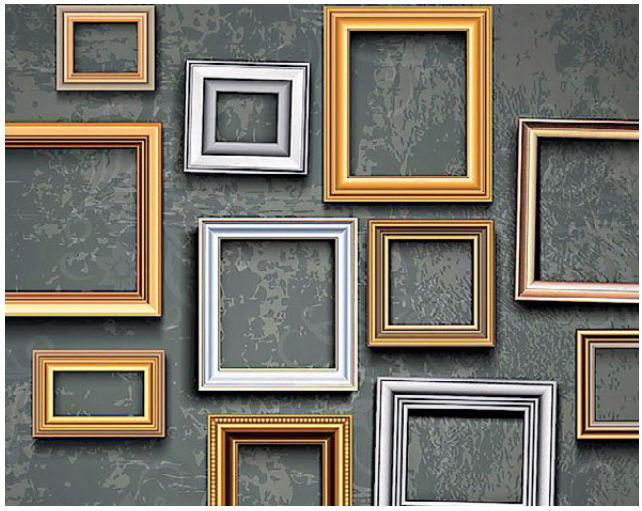
For a local bespoke kitchen and furniture manufacturer that will let you keep control over the design and build of your kitchen or built-in furniture, try The Dovetail Joint in Forest Hill. The Dovetail Joint has manufactured beautiful handmade kitchens since 1990, so for stylish, practical, hardwearing and competitively priced kitchen furniture, call the number below or visit the website.

020 8291 5578; thedovetailjoint.co.uk

Roullier White

It is that time of year when we can expect some uninvited guests as it gets colder and the spiders move indoors... Spiders are great at getting rid of nasty flying things but you might not necessarily want to share a bathroom with one. Mrs White's Leg It is an all-natural deterrent that contains chestnut oil, which spiders will not cross. Spray around plugholes and doorframes for safe protection for you, your family and your pets.

125 Lordship Lane, East Dulwich SE22 8HU; 020 8693 5150; roullierwhite.com



Framing On The Heath

Whether you're looking to frame a picture, print or photograph, Framing on the Heath has the ideal service. Choose from an unlimited array of designs and styles and benefit from quality in-house craftsmanship to ensure you get the frame you want. The team can deal with any size of frame and also retails a number of special-edition prints and posters, should you wish to find something to frame!

14 Royal Parade, Blackheath SE3 0TL; 020 8852 8220; adrian@framingontheheath.com; framingontheheath.co.uk

Marie Kalsi Interior Design

Marie Kalsi Interior Design is a design consultancy based in East Dulwich that provides visually stunning interiors and comprehensive design services for residential clients. Whether your property requires structural changes, a new kitchen or bathroom, or simply re-decoration, the team can take away the pressure of making those hard decisions. Whatever your budget, Marie Kalsi Interior Design will improve your living space.

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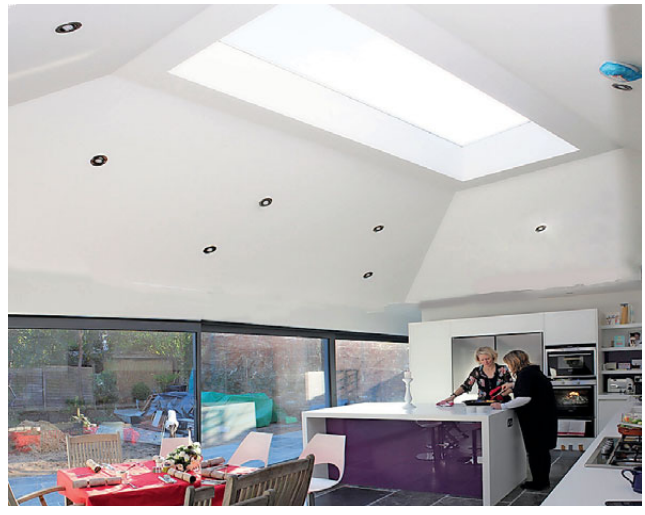
See mariekalsi.co.uk

Our pick of the local independent businesses that simply need to be in your address book

Too Marvellous

Established in Greenwich in 2013, toomarvellous.co.uk is an online boutique of superlative gifts for discerning ladies and gentlemen, as well as the home – from grooming to jewellery and hip flasks to tableware. These wood and sterling Hallmarked Silver Peugeot Salt & Pepper mills (above, priced £149.95 per pair) are hand-finished in England by a fine silversmith. Delivered free and presented gift boxed.

Search 50032 at toomarvellous.co.uk



Titman Design

The kitchen is the heart of the home and within it, you can have a fireplace to snuggle by, a dining space for gatherings and the functions of the utility room. And when the sun comes out, views onto the gardens. No other room can do this, so make the most of your personal space and family life by investing in your home with Mark Titman, who specialises in extending Greenwich homes, even those in conservation areas.

marktitman.com; 07771 907 011

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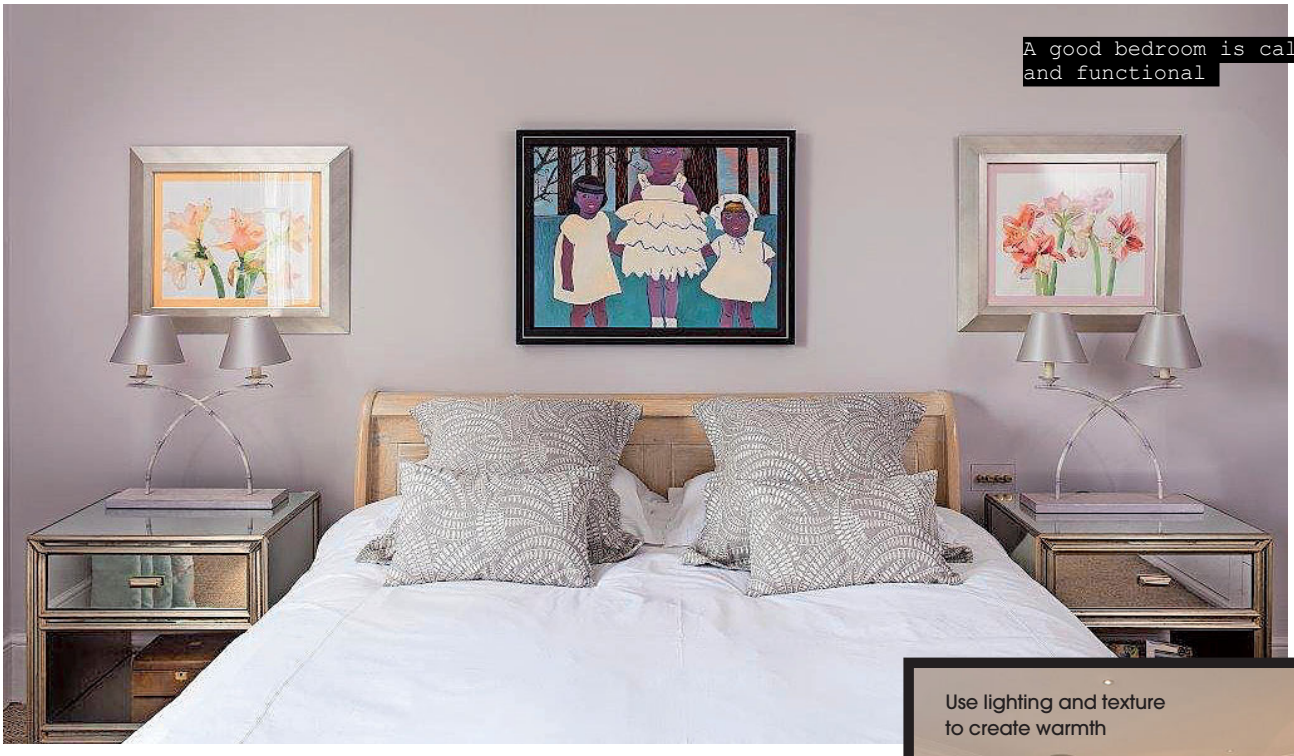

A good bedroom is calm and functional

Use lighting and texture to create warmth

SLEEP COUNSEL

Blackheath-based Jane Bottomley Interiors knows just how to make a bedroom a sanctuary

Words SUSAN BOTTOMLEY

Our bedrooms should be a personal and private space, a retreat, even. Sanctuary is of course going to be different for individual members of the family, so personal requirements should be considered when starting to plan. Think about how each room will be used – the layout, the storage and the lighting, both natural and artificial.

Atmosphere can be created with architecture, lighting, texture and colour. The most successful bedrooms are versatile, on the one hand appearing to be a sea of tranquility, inviting and calm at the end of a long day, but also highly functional with enough storage and light where you need it (for reading or rummaging through your wardrobes, for example). Good design is in the detail.

The biggest soft item in a bedroom is usually the bed and the biggest picture is probably the window. Consider the view and colour palette outside when you start to think about colours inside.

Identify your focal points in the room and plan your design accordingly. Do you want the room to be inward looking or outward looking? This will probably depend on the vista.

A focal point could be the headboard, for example. If you use a patterned fabric on the headboard, stretched taught, it will form a picture. Large patterns can be used very successfully in this way, drawing the eye into the room.

Atmosphere can be created with lighting, texture and colour

If, on the other hand, you prefer plain fabrics, a deep-buttoned headboard can look very smart and will add depth, interest and texture. Patterned bedcovers are often replaced with statement pillows and throws these days. Fresh white linen and pillows combined with a couple of big, carefully chosen square cushions and set against a beautiful headboard can be a real show stopper.

A master bedroom potentially has very different requirements from a guest room. The guest room is the perfect place to indulge your more frivolous design ideas. You can open the door and enjoy a perfect, untouched room – the freshness, the colours and the details all still looking just as you left it each time you look in. Visitors will enjoy the comfortable simple pleasure of a pretty or a dramatic looking bedroom without needing the depth required in a scheme to accommodate everyday living.

janebottomleyinteriors.co.uk; 020 8355 3388

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Plus!

Our verdict on London's latest food hot spots

TOM PARKER BOWLES

Our restaurant scene is great, but the real magic happens outdoors

Forget those Michelin starred mausoleums, with their air-conditioned attitude and bone-china chill. Ornately edible ennui might get some palates priapic with glee, but for me, it's all about the street. Give me wobbling plastic stools, cigarette smoke and diesel fumes; rough edges, bold flavours and food that makes the senses swoon. Some of the greatest feasts I've ever devoured have taken place on concrete, rather than carpet; wobbling oyster omelettes on sultry Bangkok backstreets, tongue searing som tums and plump, fermented sausages. Or tacos al Pastor in Mexico City, served from tiny holes in the wall, filled with charred pork and salsas so fresh they're still winking. All great food cultures have their own street food classics. It's the soul of any decent cuisine, the no-nonsense, unembellished and resolutely cheap taste of the people.

And London, a couple of centuries back, had a thriving scene. Roasted chestnuts, eel pies, pickled sheep's feet, toasted bloaters and baked potatoes. Fish and chips has its roots on the street – the fish fried, then sold cold by members of the immigrant Ashkenazi community. But by the fag end of the 20th century, the only al fresco eating Londoners could find was those long, limp and decidedly dodgy hotdogs.

But then came the revolution. Well, less a revolution, more a group of individuals who were put off by the astronomical prices of starting their own restaurant, so operated out of stalls and trucks instead. Kerb (kerbfood.com), in King's Cross and Canary Wharf, were one of the pioneers, where the likes of The Bowler (meatballs), Tongue and Cheek (with their magnificent Heartbreaker burger), and Wild Game Co (all sorts of ways with venison) gets the queues forming and the punters drooling.

Dinerama is part of the incredibly popular Street Feast movement

Then there's Street Feast (streetfeastlondon.com), which operates three sites: Lewisham's Model Market, Dalston Yard and Dinerama in Shoreditch. Now in the interests of transparency and all that, I'm a shareholder in the group, but with the likes of Breddos Tacos, Smokestak (proper barbeque), Bird Box (rotisserie chicken) and Duck 'n' Roll, you can taste the quality yourself. Plus there are vendors who straddle both, like Fundi Pizza and Yum Bun (near perfect pork buns). Not forgetting The Rib Man, whose rib buns and fiery sauces have become part of London's edible cultdom. Some former street food vendors have become so popular that they've made the move to proper premises. Take a bow, Pitt Cue & Co and Bao London. Beauties, both. There are even awards, run by the excellent British Street Food (britishstreetfood.co.uk). So ditch the linen, dispatch the cutlery and get down to where the flavour really is. For true edible succour, it's all about the street.

EDITOR'S CHOICE – SOUTHERN STREET FEASTS

Pop Brixton
Pop Brixton provides live music, vintage clothing and even a wine shop alongside its street-food offerings. Zoe's Ghana Kitchen, Donostia Social Club and Hook are not to be missed but Baba G's Crazy Lamb Jalfrezi Burger is an excellent grab-and-go option!
popbrixton.org

Druid St Market
In the arches along Druid Street in Bermondsey you'll find delis, breweries and bakeries as well as street food vendors pedalling amazing ice-cream sandwiches, New Orleans-style oysters and cracking homemade salted caramel.
druid.st

The Artworks
The Artworks at Elephant & Castle is a mini-city of start-up enterprises with plenty of exotic dishes on offer. Sample the goods at Love Fresh Vietnamese, Marcel & Sons Mauritian Comfort Food, Tasty Jerk, The Frenchie Bistro and Elephantastic Pizza.
theartworks-uk.com

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FOOD *NOTEBOOK*

Autmnal bites for savvy south Londoners

TAKE OFF

The new NY-LON by Virgin Atlantic and Delta at The O2, Greenwich, is the first out-of-airport lounge bar of its kind in London. The stylish new aviation-themed lounge bar channels the spirit of checking into a first class lounge with sleek design, great service and even a little call button to order your drinks. The bar replicates an aircraft engine with mirrored, fuselage-effect walls and cloud-like pendant lights, and serves cocktails and light bites inspired by the airlines' heritage and those two great cities – New York and London. Menu highlights include the Brooklyn crab salad and Billingsgate fish pie.

See ny-lon.co.uk

TOP TAPAS

Brixton's Boqueria Tapas has scooped the Reader Award for Best Local Restaurant in London in the Waitrose *Good Food Guide* Awards. The establishment beat off stiff competition from some of London's best-known restaurants with its 'exquisite tapas' and 'good value' menu. boqueriatapas.com

Mobile mini bistro

La Petite Bouchee is a vintage Citroen HY camper converted into a French bistro for four. Parked in Sydenham Wells Park, the pop-up has been in operation for just over a year. Chef patron Anita-Clare Field's menu features pizza, steak, burgers, bourbon smoked chicken and even pancakes for Sunday brunch. Their Moules Night events are popular too.

See lapetitebouchee.me

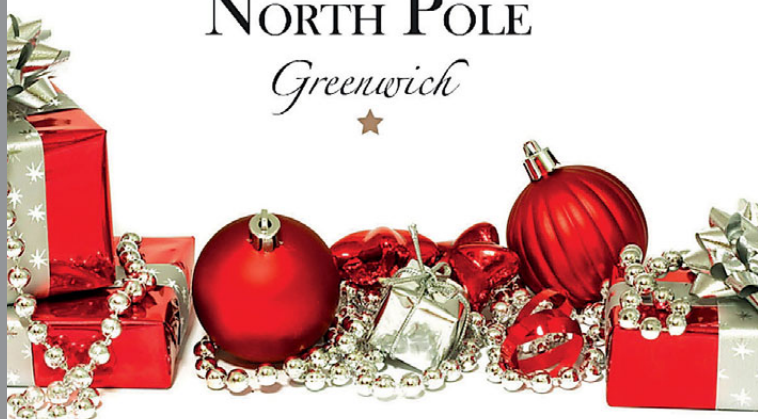
SOUL FOOD

Bake In Black: Music Inspired Baking, published by the Flood Gallery in Greenwich, draws influence from the world of rock to create a collection of 58 quirky sweet indulgences that make baking cool. Meatloaf's Battenburg Out Of Hell is a particular favourite! £12.99

FONDÉ EN 1849

NORTH POLE

Greenwich



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GUY AWFORD

Go wild for mushrooms with a classic Polish dumpling dish

October marks a real shift in our eating habits, with the quick, vibrant dishes of the summer giving way to more complex and comforting dishes. Wild mushrooms are the month's standout ingredient – their delicate, woody notes perfect for a gamey stew.

Wild mushrooms are admittedly a bit of a luxury, so if you want that earthy woody flavour without the expense, then Portobello mushrooms are the ones for you. Meaty and dense they have far more umami flavour than a button mushroom. Chopped and sautéed with aromatics they make a delicious autumnal filling for pierogi, the classic dumpling dish from Poland.

Pierogi are easy to make. You don't need a pasta machine, just elbow grease and a rolling pin. To make the dough, sift 400g of self-raising flour into a large bowl with a generous pinch of salt. Add 260ml of hot water and a teaspoon of vegetable oil. Bring the dough together and knead for 10 minutes. Wrap in cling film and rest for 30 minutes. When the time comes to make the pierogi, keep the pastry circles covered with a damp cloth so they don't dry out and don't overfill them or they will burst in the water.

For the crispy onions, finely slice an onion and shallow fry over a medium heat, stirring occasionally, until the slices turn a rich golden brown. Scatter onto kitchen paper to dry out.

Guy is chef-patron of handmadefood.com, insiderestaurant.co.uk & theguildfordarms.co.uk

TOP TIP

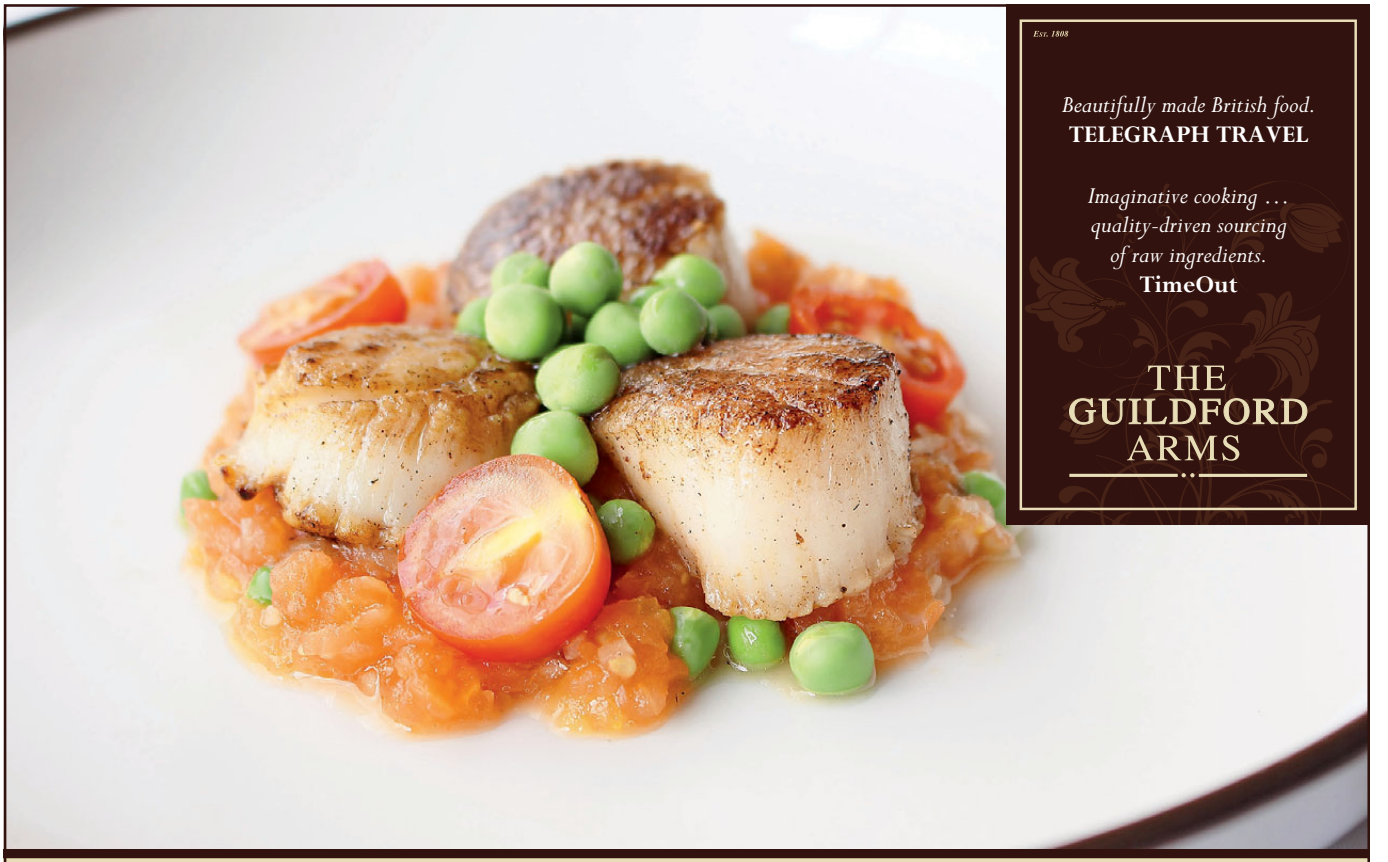
Wild mushrooms are a bit of a luxury, so if you want that earthy woody flavour without the expense, then dense, meaty Portobello mushrooms are great

PORTOBELLO MUSHROOM, CAVOLO NERO & RICOTTA PIEROGI WITH SOUR CREAM & CRISPY ONIONS

- **Makes: about 30**
- **Preparation time: 1 hour**
- **Cooking time: 10 minutes**

pierogi dough (see left)
1 onion, finely diced
2 bay leaves
500g Portobello mushrooms, diced
2 cloves garlic, chopped
200g cavolo nero, finely sliced
250g ricotta
2 slices bread, crust removed and torn into small pieces
marjoram, dill and thyme, chopped and added to taste
pinch caraway seeds
sour cream
crispy onions (see left)

1 In a large pot, sauté the onion and garlic with the bay leaves until soft
2 In a separate pan, fry the mushrooms in batches until golden and add to the onions
3 Add the cavolo nero, herbs and caraway seeds and cook for 5 minutes. Remove from the heat and mix in the bread
4 Allow to cool, fold in the ricotta and season
5 Roll out the dough to a thickness of 2mm and cut into 9cm circles with a pastry cutter
6 Place a teaspoon of filling in the centre and rub a little water over one side of the circle
7 Fold to form a semi-circle and press the edges with a fork to seal
8 Poach the pierogi in a large pot of boiling water until they float
9 Remove from the water, pat dry and pan-fry in a little olive oil until golden brown
10 Serve with crispy onions and sour cream



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PEIYAU CHEN; TANG SHI

KITCHO

Words VICTORIA PURCELL

Now is a good time to be a sushi fan. The sublime, delicate, raw fish dish is having a moment. Not a prohibitively pricey Nobu kind of moment, but a real life, real food, real prices moment. After the opening of Sticks N Sushi on Nelson Road and the launch Locale's sushi menu, we now have Kitcho in Greenwich.

The sushi and sashimi platters are one of many authentic Japanese dishes

Formerly the hugely popular Aji Ichiban on Nelson Road, the restaurant has relocated to Greenwich High Road and relaunched as Kitcho. The interior is calm and cool with dark wood and pared-back furnishings, as a Japanese restaurant ought to be, in my opinion. The front space is a bar area so you can call in for a drink (should you be missing the venue's previous occupant, Bar 57), and through the back you head either upstairs to eat at the sushi counter, or the adjacent booths, or downstairs where larger parties can be accommodated.

The bar is stacked with a healthy population of Japanese sakes and whiskies. I highly recommend commencing your meal with a Mio sparkling sake – it's the same brand they serve at Sake No Hana and it's delicious; light and delicate with fruity aromas. If you like Prosecco, you'll love it. We supped ours alongside shared starters of light, crispy wasabi prawns (tempura battered with wasabi mayonnaise) and a kani (crab) and avocado salad with a delectable miso dressing.

We then shared a beautiful, indulgent mixed sushi and sashimi platter. My friend, not convinced he was a fan of raw fish, concentrated his efforts on the dragon maki roll (deep fried prawns in bread crumbs, topped with thinly sliced avocado and flying fish roe). But he soon progressed to the mix of tuna and salmon sushi and sashimi with no qualms. It's absolutely delicious. You can watch the chef prepare it at the sushi counter from the comfort of your seats, so you know it's fresh as a daisy, and it's as good as any sushi I've ever had. We also ordered gyu (sirloin steak) with a punchy wasabi dressing and a very tasty tori teri (skin-on pan-fried chicken with teriyaki sauce). Dessert is an acquired taste. Having lived in Japan I'm down with sesame seed ice cream encased in a sticky, gelatinous mochi shell, but I wouldn't blame you if you stuck to the green tea ice cream!

This place is a no to pan-Asian or fusion cuisines and a yes to straight-up, authentic Japanese food. The menu is packed full of favourites like udon, ramen, katsu curry and donburi, with teppanyaki scheduled to arrive soon. Excellent.

57 Greenwich High Road SE10 8JL; 020 8691 5511

COST
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FIT & FLEX

5 quirky ways to lengthen and strengthen locally

Adult Ballet

You probably won't make prima ballerina, but it's never too late to take up a tutu. As well as being a good workout, ballet helps improve posture, muscle tone, flexibility and core strength. Blackheath Ballet offers Ballet Burn (drop-ins, £15; six lessons, £72), South London Dance Studios in Herne Hill offers Adult Ballet Tone (£124, 12 weeks) and Push Studios in East Dulwich offers Ballet Sculpt and Ballet Blast (£10).

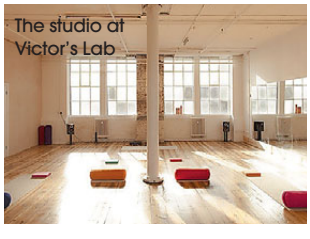
blackeathballet@outlook.com
southlondondancestudios.co.uk
pushstudios.co.uk

Adult ballet at South London Dance Studios

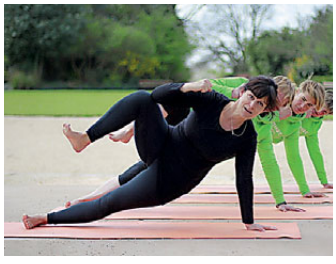
Body Barre

Based at Victor's Lab at The Bussey Building, Peckham, The Barre Project's Body Barre classes blend ballet, Pilates and yoga for an effective workout. Classes focus on alignment, core strength, flexibility and muscle tone, running every Tuesday (6-7pm, £7). Victor's Lab hosts some novel yoga classes too, including Punk Yoga, a Dru Yoga class with a soundtrack ranging from acoustic punk to some more ambient tracks for sequences designed to give you a boost (Wednesdays, 7-8pm, £10).

See victorslab.co.uk



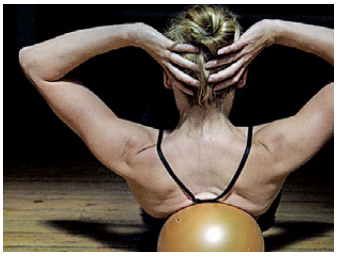
The studio at Victor's Lab



Boxing Yoga

For a challenging class that improves strength and flexibility, try Boxing Yoga with south east London-based Bodyshot PT. Fusing boxing techniques with poses from Ashtanga Vinyasa yoga, it gives all the major muscle groups a workout. It's pretty tough, with lots of planking – on one arm – giving the core, arms and shoulders a heck of a workout. One-to-one classes only, priced £49 per hour.

To book call 07401 441 818 or email yoga@bodyshot-pt.co.uk
See bodyshot-pt.co.uk



Body Rolling

This innovative workout uses balls to stretch muscles, realign and create space in the joints. The body wants to correct itself and let go of bad patterns of movement, and this one-day workshop on 11 October (2-5pm, £30) at The Shala centre in West Norwood will teach you the key sequences and help you understand your body's natural logic. The effects of Body Rolling are immediate and anyone can take part, but it's especially good for yogis, dancers and athletes.

See theshala.co.uk

Circus tricks

If you're seeking something truly different, join the circus. Aircraft Circus in Woolwich, as well as courses in the flying trapeze, silks and more, runs Flexibility courses to help aerial performers control the lines of their body and range of flexibility, but all are welcome. The next six-week course runs Wednesdays at 9-10pm from 26 October (£70, drop-ins, £15). If you really want to up the ante, there's also a Contortion class…

See aircraftcircus.com

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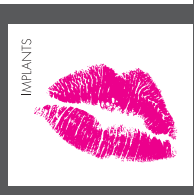

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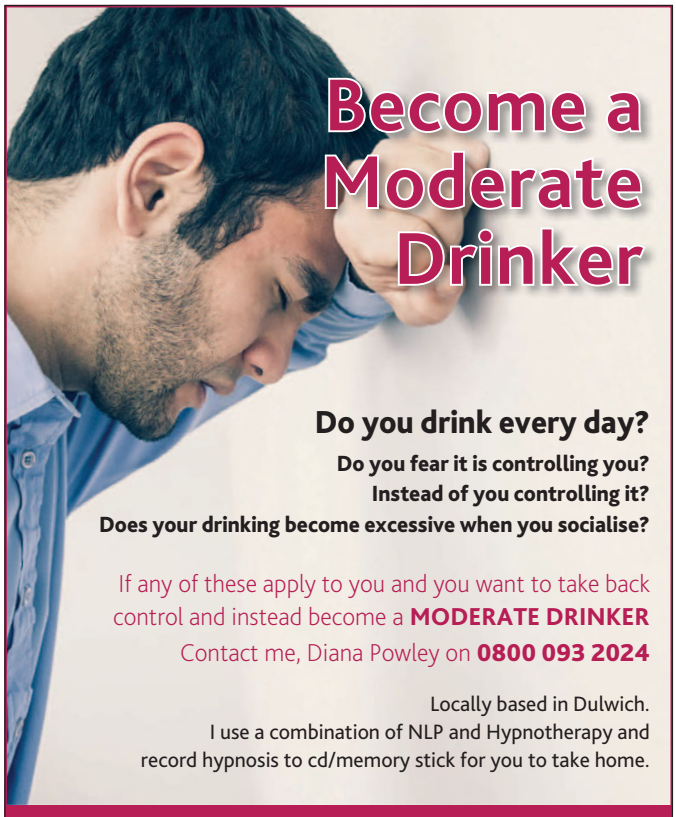

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020 8434 7028 *www.CloudHealthUK.com* secretary@cld.ht

Flawless beauty

The new Nova Aesthetic Clinic brings a touch of Harley Street to Greenwich

Have you heard about the new Nova Aesthetic Clinic in Greenwich yet? Just a stone's throw from Cutty Sark DLR station, it has a discreet little entrance so you can slip in and out undetected. The world doesn't need to know your beauty secrets, after all!

The clinic offers cutting-edge aesthetic treatments – from non-surgical face lifts to radio frequency body-sculpting – carried out by a team of doctors and cosmetic consultants who also practise on Harley Street. The very latest treatment on offer is NovaLift, a non-surgical face lift that uses targeted ultrasound to boost collagen production. The state-of-the-art technology tightens and tones skin around the brow, eyes, jawline and décolletage. You'll see an immediate improvement in your eyebrow area, but the best thing about this procedure is that the lifting effect continues for the next 90 days and can last for as long as six years. NovaLift was featured on Channel 4's *How Not To Get Old*, where presenter Anna Richardson voted it her favourite treatment. It's also one of Courtney Cox's favourites.

Then there's the NovaShape body sculpting treatment. Nova LipoFreeze uses scientifically proven technology to break down localised fat cells through a cooling process known as cryogenic lipolysis, permanently destroying stubborn fat cells. The technology has been used for more than 10 years and is established as a safe and effective alternative to liposuction, with typical results of around 20-40% fat reduction in the treated area visible within two to three weeks of treatment.

Combine it with LPG LipoMassage, which uses vacuum and mechanical massage technology to enhance and extend the process of fat elimination and firm the skin. The treatment boosts circulation and lymphatic drainage and safely breaks down cells to eliminate stubborn areas of fat, dimpled skin and problem areas. The before and after photos are incredible and because it's non-invasive, there's no downtime.

Cutting-edge aesthetic treatments are carried out by Harley Street professionals

The team at the clinic is highly professional and sought-after. Top European plastic and reconstructive surgeon, Professor Baruffaldi Preis, and leading gynaecologist and obstetrician, Dr Alex Di Gesu, practise here, as well as a semi-permanent make-up specialist and laser treatment pro.

Nova's cosmetic practitioners each have more than 10 years' experience working with injectable fillers and botox. The clinic hosts experts in all aspects of non-invasive facial rejuvenation who discreetly help their A-list clientele combat common problems such as lines on the face and a lack of skin tone.

If you're after more of a spa-style treatment, you can also indulge in a bespoke facial in the beautifully decorated beauty therapy room. Using the world-renowned ZO Skin Health range of skincare products, developed by US dermatologist Dr Zein Obagi and recommended by top cosmetic surgeons, your skin will soon be restored to its healthy, glowing best.

3 College Approach, Greenwich SE10 9HY. For a complimentary consultation call 020 8293 1070. novaclinic.co.uk; info@novaclinic.co.uk

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Saturday November 7th (Senior: ages 13–18)

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EDUCATION

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STUART LEECH

ART IN THE DARK

Subjects coming under the spotlight in very different ways

As a child, there is something rather exciting about sleepovers. Whether it's spending some time away from home, or just being with your friends for even longer, they form an integral part to any childhood. How exciting, then, must it be to spend a night at Dulwich Picture Gallery? That's exactly the opportunity being offered to local children right now, a chance to discover the gallery in a relaxed, enchanting environment. Also inside this section is a look at a real hot potato in education: religion. One Headmaster of a leading Catholic school argues why our children need to be taught RE, particularly considering the diverse world we live in today.

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Thursday 5 November
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Senior School Open Mornings 2015
Saturday 26 September
Saturday 7 November

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Stonyhurst College actively promotes religious education in its curriculum

KEEP THE FAITH

Religion in schools may be under the microscope, but there should be a place for it in education, says the Head of a leading independent Catholic school

Words ANDREW JOHNSON

Religion in education all too often gets a bad press. Critics argue that it has no place in schools, which should be 'neutral' – free from the intolerance, extremism and illiberalism which they say religion engenders. Faith is irrelevant in everyday life, they claim. In a diverse society, religion offers only segregation and ignorance. On the contrary – religious education is more important now than it has probably ever been.

Religious education emphasises respect for others, regardless of their beliefs, race or social status. In our diverse society, children need an understanding of other principal religions and other world views. In teaching about the beliefs and traditions of other people, the subject promotes discernment and enables pupils to combat prejudice. Such tolerance is vital in a world that is increasingly fraught with extremism, division and hatred. Too often, it is assumed that religious education is hijacked as a sinister means of indoctrination; of imposing a set of beliefs upon children. Of course, we are all, to some extent, the product of our environments, absorbing the views and traditions of our families, schools and communities. Education, however, is by definition about intellectual enlightenment, concerned with opening minds, not closing them.

Even in faith schools, which promote the tenets and values of a particular religion, pupils are encouraged to question rather than to accept passively any given creed. The majority of faith schools do not teach from one single faith perspective, but incorporate an element of comparison between religions. Far from being self-regarding, segregated institutions that deepen division, faith schools encourage openness to others.

Without religious education, how can children acquire a knowledge of Christianity, the religion that has played such a central part in this country's cultural heritage? Any study of literature, history, or art is impoverished without an understanding of this context. Children also need the opportunity to discuss challenging questions about the ultimate meaning and purpose of life, and what it is to be human, about death, about why people believe in God, and the difference between right and wrong. Religious education is perhaps one curricular subject that asks more questions than it answers.

Religious education emphasises respect for others, regardless of their beliefs

It is only when young people have grappled with these enormous questions that they can begin to make sense of what they themselves believe and think. As education becomes increasingly utilitarian, religious education can encourage pupils to think, and to develop their own sense of identity.

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SIAMS Report 2014

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Wednesday 23rd September 10am
Talk and questions with the Headteacher at 10.45am

Thursday 1st October 10am
Talk and questions with the Headteacher at 10.45am

Thursday 15th October 6.30pm
Sixth Form Open Evening

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THE JUNIOR SCHOOL

Open Morning for entry at 7+, 8+ and 9+

Saturday 3 October 9.30 – 12 noon

Open Afternoon for entry at 7+, 8+ and 9+

Thursday 5 November 1.30 – 3.15pm

No appointment is necessary. Entrance on Hunts Slip Road.

Mid-week visits are also available by appointment. Please call Junior Admissions on 020 8299 8432 or email junioradmissions@dulwich.org.uk.

DULWICH COLLEGE
FOUNDED 1619

Open Morning for Year 7 entry

Saturday 10 October 9.30 – 12 noon

Tour the College with boys, meet staff and hear the Master, Dr Joe Spence, talk about Dulwich College. No appointment is necessary.

Mid-week visits are also available by appointment. Please call the Registrar's Office on 020 8299 9263.

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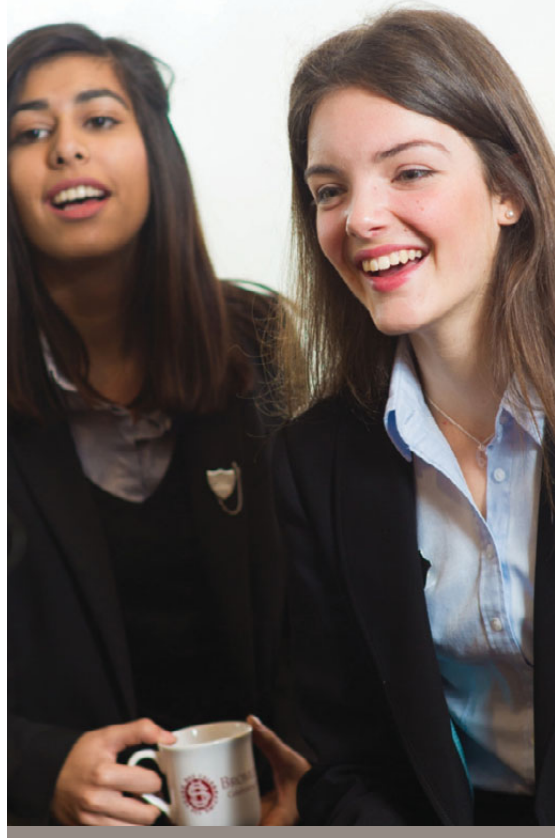

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POINTS OF VIEW

The Pointer School is in the midst of a building project, which is intended to provide two additional classrooms, a staff room and a glass atrium. This will be located to the rear of the Early Years Building and is an exciting new development for the school, reflecting the growing numbers of pupils and the intention of so many parents to give their child the best start in life. The Pointer School is a Nursery, Prep and Pre-Prep school situated on two sites. It is for boys and girls from three to 11 years and the school achieved 'Outstanding' in every category in the last Ofsted Inspection, and 'Excellent' in every category (the highest grade) in their recent ISI inspection.

19 Strathdean Road SE3 7TH; 020 8293 1331; pointers-school.co.uk

Figures add up

The area's schools have been celebrating top exam results – here's a snapshot: Blackheath High saw another increase in the percentage of girls achieving A*s at A level; Bromley High girls achieved a stunning 22% of grades at A* at A level; the numbers at Walworth Academy achieving at least three A*-B grades at A level doubled this year; and a special GCSE mention to Sydenham School's Julia Solecka (above) – knocked down on a pedestrian crossing less than a month before her exams, she achieved 8 A*s and 5As.

EDUCATION *NEWS*

Individual success stories and planning for the future

Filling the gap

Nineteen-year-old Tom Davies has completed a gap year challenge of being the youngest person to cycle around the world. Tom set off from Battersea on 17 January 2015 and has cycled over 18,000 miles across Europe, Asia, Australasia and North America. Although not an official Guinness World Record, since 'youngest' records are not recognised, Tom believes he is the youngest person to have completed such a journey.

For more information about Tom and the cycle ride, visit tomdaviesrtw.com

PULLING ALL THE STRINGS

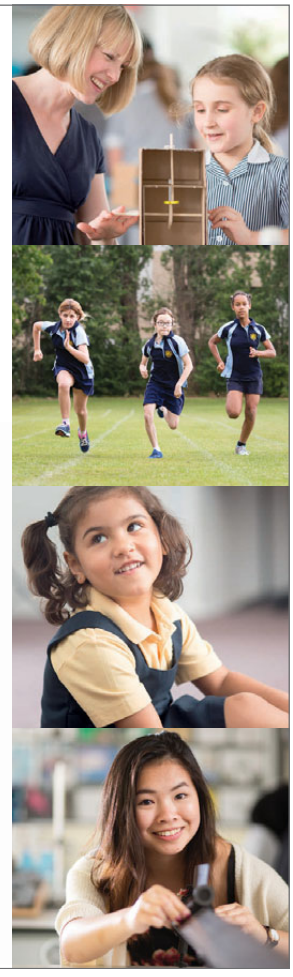
The Strings Club's ten-week courses for four to 11-year-olds are now taking place each week at venues including in Brockley. Find out more by visiting thestringsclub.org or calling 0121 369 1950

BLACKHEATH
HIGH SCHOOL GDST

PUTTING GIRLS FIRST

Open Days and Mornings 2015

Saturday 10 October: Open morning
Thursday 15 October: Sixth Form taster day
Tuesday 3 November: School in Action morning
Wednesday 11 November: School in Action morning



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Sixth Form Open Evening
Thursday 8 October 6.30 pm – 8.30 pm

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gdst Girls' Day School Trust

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Open Morning

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Tuesday 3rd November 9.30 - 11.00

Tours of the school are held on Tuesday mornings
Bursaries available

020-8670 5865

email: admissions@rosemeadprepschool.org.uk
www.rosemeadprepschool.org.uk

Wimbledon High School is often rated highly in league tables

TURNING THE TABLES

Are school league tables a good indicator that your child will receive a quality education? Or are they merely an ego boost for those that come out on top?

Words SUE LAIDLAW

Whether you are one of those parents who leap to the pages in the paper when school league tables are published or whether you view them with disdain, they are part of life today. I am one of those ambivalent parents who secretly looks to see how the offsprings' schools have fared, whilst also deriding their lack of objectivity at the same time. What are the facts about league tables?

Firstly, it is important to realise that many of the country's top schools have now opted out of league tables for GCSE and A levels. Indeed, according to official rankings, no pupils from Eton (inset), Harrow or Westminster met the target of five GCSEs of A*-C grade. The reason for this is the exclusion of the IGCSE results, favoured by many independent schools.

Even when league tables are published, you will notice that they can be interpreted in different ways and this allows certain schools to take pole position over others. There is no allowance for the different GCSEs taken, some undoubtedly harder and more academic than others, and no allowance for different boards and syllabi.

Having said that, it could be argued that by taking a wider look at the league tables there is useful information within them. If a school is in the published top 25 or 50, for example, this must give an indication of academic performance.

So how does this help parents view prospective schools for their children? One wise father of three daughters recently expressed his concern to me that league tables don't measure all the other aspects of a good school. There is no allocation of marks for success in sport or the arts; there is no 'added value' for schools that develop pupils above and beyond expectation; and there is no indicator of pastoral care factors.

League tables have their place and can be helpful, but view them with caution

Then there are the tables for SATs results. These tables are published by the Department for Education stating the results of the May tests taken by children in Year 6 in state schools. These children are assessed in reading, writing and maths, and the expectation is for them to reach a Level 4 standard in all. This means that they have reached an acceptable standard of spelling, are beginning to use more complex sentence structure and can employ joined up handwriting in English. Schools are now expected to ensure 65% of pupils achieve Level 4 or above in these tests or satisfy separate pupil progress requirements.

All teachers and most parents know that these results are often more beneficial for the school than the child. There can be benefits for the children, but the process does not sit comfortably with the nature of true education.

In short, league tables have their place and can be helpful to read. However, view them with caution and take a rounded view.

For more details visit laidlaweducation.co.uk or call 020 8487 9517

A night in the gallery should fire up youngsters' imaginations

NIGHT VISION

Dulwich Picture Gallery hosts its first sleepover for an unbeatable night-time adventure alongside baroque masters like Rembrandt

Words VICTORIA PURCELL

If your youngsters have giggled at Ben Stiller running amok in *Night at the Museum*, then Dulwich Picture Gallery's latest offering is for you. The gallery has teamed up with Pushkin Press to host its first ever children's sleepover on Saturday 3 October.

Pillows and Paintbrushes will take 7-13 year olds on an exciting night-time adventure within the walls of Britain's first purpose-built public art gallery. After an evening of creative activities and storytelling, children can enjoy a special night's sleep surrounded by works by the gallery's Old Masters.

The sleepover delves into the world of American children's classic *From The Mixed Up Files of Mrs Basil E Frankweiler* by E. L. Konigsburg. The National Education Association named the book one of its Teachers' Top 100 Books for Children in 2007, and when

Pushkin Press re-published it earlier this year, the book met critical acclaim from the likes of *The Times* ('Meet the ultimate escape fantasy which conveys the thrill and fear of being a minor loose in the big city.').

The enchanting evening brings to life the adventures of the book's young characters, Claudia and Jamie Kincaid, who run away from home to the Metropolitan Museum of Modern Art in New York, where they find the remarkable Mrs Frankweiler.

During the evening children will be able to pay a visit to the house of Mrs Frankweiler and listen to her tales, explore the mysteries of the gallery with a special trail and make their own autographed book bag, all while experiencing the atmosphere of the gallery's famed enfilade and mausoleum after hours. It's then lights out to dream alongside baroque masters like Rembrandt and Canaletto. In the morning, it's time for a healthy breakfast and a screening of the film adaptation of the book.

Tickets £50. Children must be accompanied by an adult. See dulwichpicturegallery.org.uk

COLFE'S
SCHOOL

An independent day school
for girls and boys 3-18 years

Open morning
Ages 3 - 11
Tuesday 3 November
9.30am - 11am

Open morning
Ages 11 - 18
Saturday 7 November
9am - 12 noon

Sixth Form open evening
Thursday 8 October
5pm - 9pm
Booking essential

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Open morning:
Sat. 10th Oct. 2015, 10am – 12:30pm

W www.hernehillschool.co.uk.
E enquiries@hernehillschool.co.uk
T 020 7274 6336

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Boys 13 - 18 • Boarding and Day

OPEN MORNINGS

Saturday 3rd October 2015 at 10.00am

Saturday 12th March 2016 at 10.00am

Scholarships & Bursaries available at 11+, 13+ and 16+

For further information or an individual appointment please contact Admissions: (01732) 304297 or e-mail: admissions@tonbridge-school.org

www.tonbridge-school.co.uk

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15ISG(i)

Blackheath High's students tackle life head on, both inside and out of the classroom

PUT TO THE TEST

Bravery, not perfectionism: Blackheath High girls are taught to tackle life's challenges head on

Bertrand Russell once said: 'The trouble with the world is that the stupid are cocksure and the intelligent are full of doubt'.

All too often, students, especially young women, can fall into the trap of failing to fulfil their potential through fear of making mistakes, or through negative perfectionism that cripples their ability to take risks. Kay and Shipman's book, *The Confidence Code*, talks about a confidence gap that separates the sexes, starting in schools where girls are typically rewarded for being 'good' instead of energetic, brave or even 'pushy'. Research also suggests that women repeatedly underestimate their abilities, are reluctant to apply for promotion and, once in post, can suffer from 'imposter syndrome' (the false belief that they are somehow a fraud who will be found out at any moment).

At Blackheath High School, students benefit from an approach that means they are far better equipped to risk failure, be courageous and believe and acknowledge their own strengths and abilities. Their teaching inspires girls to develop a questioning, evidence-based approach to their studies. They are encouraged to ask questions, embrace uncertainties and develop the problem-solving skills that are so vital in the world beyond school. Qualifications like the Extended Project Qualification (EPQ) or courses like 'Global Perspectives' or 'Matrix of Knowledge' teach students not only a body of knowledge, but also how they might approach a situation when they do not know what the answer might be. All subjects, including science and technology-based subjects, are considered 'girl' subjects at Blackheath High and it is typical to see graduates this summer heading off to an array of courses.

A wide-ranging and ambitious co-curricular programme at Blackheath High enables students to leap outside their comfort zones and try themselves out. This might be testing themselves physically hiking in the Peruvian Andes, like some of our girls this summer; it might be defending the Green Party manifesto at a school mock election; taking to the stage for a percussion solo; or it might be attempting Astronomy GCSE in their spare time. Whatever the arena, the school fosters an environment where girls are encouraged and expected to take risks, learn from any failures and foster their resilience and tenacity.

For such an approach to be successful, a school community needs to be attuned to the emotional and social needs of its students. One hundred and thirty five years of educating talented young women as part of the hugely successful Girls Day School Trust means they benefit from a depth of expertise and experience in supporting their students. Expert pastoral care and a balanced approach to education enables Blackheath High girls to go onto the next phase of their lives as poised young women, free from gender stereotypes and confident in their abilities.

To visit the school, please contact the admissions team on m.coles@bla.gdst.net (Junior School) or f.nichols@bla.gdst.net (Senior School). Open Events: Saturday 10 October: Open morning; Thursday 15 October: Sixth Form taster day; Tuesday 3 November: School in Action morning; Wednesday 11 November: School in Action morning

Alleyn's

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alleyns.org.uk

Open days

Saturday 26 September 10am – 12 noon

Thursday 8 October 1.30 – 3.00pm

Tuesday 10 November 1.30 – 3.00pm

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Alleyn's

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for entry at 11+ and 13+

Wednesday 16 September, 2.00pm

Saturday 3 October, 9.30am

Wednesday 4 November, 2.00pm

All welcome – no need to book

For more information visit our website alleyns.org.uk

Tel: 020 8557 1478

Townley Road, Dulwich, London SE22 8SU

IN GAUDIO SERVIAMUS

THE CEDARS SCHOOL

Independent school with a Catholic ethos for boys aged 11-18

"The school's Catholic ethos is evident in the strong spiritual life of the school and the commitment to service"

"An ethos that encourages intellectual curiosity"

"Good teaching fires pupils' enthusiasm, sets high expectations and challenges them to think and learn for themselves"

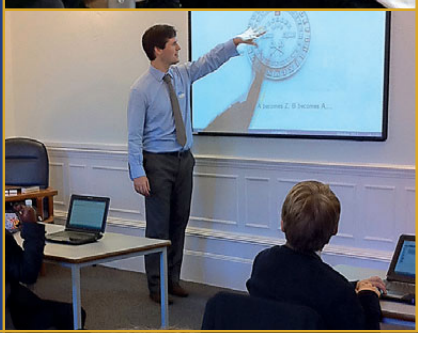
All quotes from Ofsted 2014

Open Day 10th October 10am – 1pm

Contact the Admissions Office for further information on 020 8185 7770

The Cedars School
Coombe Road, Croydon, CR0 5RD
Tel: 020 8185 7770
enquiries@thecedarsschool.org.uk
www.thecedarsschool.org.uk

PACT
Catholic Faith & Values



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FAC OMNIA AD DEI GLORIAM

'Teachers are enthusiastic, have good subject knowledge and plan interesting lessons. There are very good relationships between staff and students.' Ofsted

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There is equality of access for admission places irrespective of distance from the school or locality. Details of our School Transportation Service are available on request.

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Millie, Josh & Chloe achieved an amazing 24 A* & 15 A Grades at GCSE between them

OPEN DAYS 2015

Wednesday 30th September
9.30am – 11am

Saturday 3rd October
11am - 1pm

Wednesday 7th October
9.30am – 11am

Saturday 10th October
11am - 1pm

SIXTH FORM OPEN EVENINGS

Wednesday 14th October
5.30pm – 7.30pm

Wednesday 11th November
5.30pm – 7.30pm

Wednesday 2nd December
5.30pm – 7.30pm

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www.kingsdalefoundationshool.org.uk

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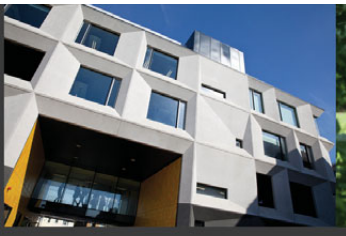

YEAR 7 OPEN DAYS

- OPEN EVENING -
Wednesday 30th September 6.00 pm

- OPEN MORNING -
Tuesday 6th October 8.45 am

- OPEN MORNING -
Thursday 8th October 8.45 am

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www.elthamcollege.london
Eltham College, Grove Park Road, Mottingham, London SE9 4QF Telephone 020 8857 1455

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www.sevenoaksschool.org

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"Tough for any university not to be an anti-climax after Sevenoaks"
Good Schools Guide

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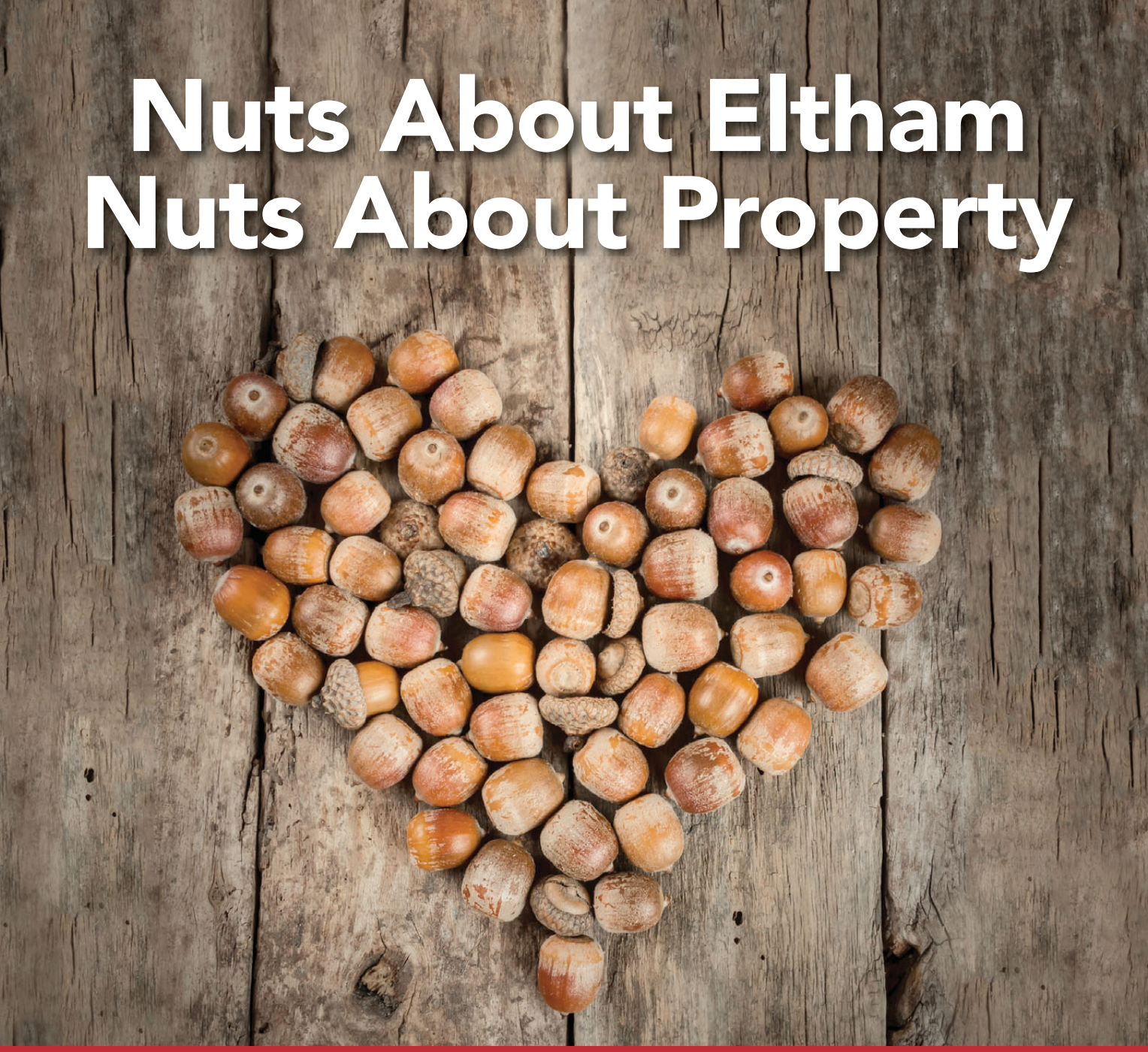

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The Royal Arsenal Riverside development scales new heights

The first homes to be constructed above a new Crossrail station have been completed by Berkeley Homes at Royal Arsenal Riverside, Woolwich. More than 1,000 homes will be constructed above the Crossrail station as part of two separate developments; one by Berkeley Homes comprising 631 apartments, and another by Crossrail with a further 394 homes. The buildings of various heights will be set around a landscaped garden. Find out more on page 110

LANGFORD RUSSELL
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Sales

Beckenham, BR3 £1,250,000 F/H

Set on one of Beckenham's most sought after roads is this imposing five double bedroom detached family home offered to the market chain free. This late thirties home retains many charming original characteristics, not least the stunning solid oak parquet flooring, restored to its original splendour by the current owners. Energy Efficiency Rating D.

BECKENHAM 020 8663 4433

Bromley, BR2 £1,300,000 F/H

Offered chain free and set within one of Bromley's most prestigious roads is this five double bedroom 1930's double fronted family home. Stone Road is a stunning tree lined no through road offering peace and tranquillity whilst being just 0.5 miles from Bromley South Station. Energy Efficiency Rating E.

BROMLEY 020 8315 5544

Lettings

Beckenham, BR3 £1,800 PCM

Large basement flat in the heart of Beckenham currently undergoing refurbishment. Situated below a stunning Edwardian house and comprising three double bedrooms, off street parking, two en-suites with one main bathroom, separate kitchen and large 15ft lounge.

BECKENHAM 020 8663 4433

Beckenham, BR3 £4,000 PCM

Formally known as the old wig factory, one of the oldest buildings in Beckenham, this family home has been refurbished throughout to the highest standard with a landscaped garden, off street parking for several cars, bi-folding front door, grand hallway with hand crafted spiral staircase located over three floors. Offered unfurnished. Energy Efficiency Rating D.

BROMLEY 020 8315 5544

Sales

Bickley, BR1 £1,195,000 F/H

Impressive contemporary family home, located in this popular cul-de-sac in Bickley. Briefly comprising five bedrooms, two bathrooms, integral garage, cloakroom, utility room, modern kitchen with integrated appliances, large lounge and well proportioned family room. Energy Efficiency Rating E.

CHISLEHURST 020 8295 4900

Keston, BR2 £1,695,000 F/H

An imposing five bedroom, three bathroom detached family home which boasts a fantastic position on Forest Drive, a highly sought after location within the private estate of Keston Park. Comprises three reception rooms, orangery, heated swimming pool and integral garage. Energy Efficiency Rating E.

LOCKSBOTTOM 01689 882 988

Lettings

Eltham, SE9 £3,000 PCM

Set back from the road is this double fronted five bedrooms detached family home. With gated driveway parking for at least three cars, five double bedrooms, two bathrooms, cellar, large garden with terrace and close to Eltham High Street and the local schools. An internal viewing is highly recommended. Energy Efficiency Rating F.

CHISLEHURST 020 8295 4900

Orpington, BR6 £4,500 PCM

Well maintained five bedroom detached residence in the desirable Chelsfield Park. Comprises three reception rooms, generous contemporary kitchen/diner, utility room, orangery, cloakroom, three en-suites, family bathroom, driveway and garage. Energy Efficiency Rating C.

LOCKSBOTTOM 01689 882 988

Sales

Orpington, BR6 £1,800,000 F/H

Magnificent five bedroom detached family home occupying a tranquil spot inside the extremely well sought after Chelsfield Park. Offering approximately 3,500 sq ft of luxurious accommodation and the unique styling of the facade gives this family home wonderful kerb appeal. Energy Efficiency Rating C.

ORPINGTON 01689 661 400

West Wickham, BR4 £899,995 F/H

Beautifully presented detached house briefly comprising two reception rooms, kitchen/diner leading into a 13ft breakfast room, utility room and study. Upstairs you will find five bedrooms, bathroom and shower room both boasting three piece suites. Additional benefits include off street parking, conservatory, workshop and rear garden. Energy Efficiency Rating D.

WEST WICKHAM 020 8432 7373

Lettings

Sevenoaks, TN14 £1,800 PCM

Three double bedroom period cottage located in the picturesque village of Knockholt. Comprising large open plan living/dining room, country style fitted kitchen, downstairs cloakroom, dressing room and family shower room. Energy Efficiency Rating E.

ORPINGTON 01689 661 400

Keston, BR2 £2,000 PCM

Stunning three bedroom house for rent in the quiet town of Keston. The property is presented in excellent condition and has three large reception rooms, stunning private rear garden, off street parking and garage. Situated in the catchment area for the very popular Keston Primary School. Energy Efficiency Rating E.

WEST WICKHAM 020 8432 7373

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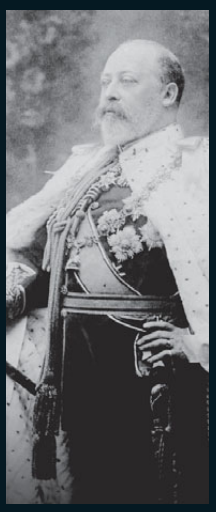

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- 2 Double bedrooms
- 2 Bathrooms
- Direct access to ommunal gardens
- Off - street parking for 2 cars
- Period property
- Premier residential street
- High ceilings
- Approx. 1,500 sq.ft

Guide price £950,000
Share of freehold

For more information, call Graham Lawes
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QUENTIN ROAD, LEWISHAM SE13

- 4 Bedrooms
- 2 Bathrooms
- Double through reception
- Period town house
- Courtyard garden
- High specification throughout
- Premier residential street
- 0.3 miles to Blackheath station

Guide price £975,000
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CROOMS HILL GROVE, GREENWICH SE10

- 3 Bedrooms
- Semi-detached town house
- Paved courtyard garden
- Located next to Greenwich Park
- 0.4 miles to Cutty Sark DLR
- Refurbished
- Local shopping
- Available October 2015

OnTheMarket.com

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For more information, call Charlotte Russell
020 8858 9944 or email charlotte.russell@eu.jll.com

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WALLACE COURT, BLACKHEATH SE3

- 3 Bedrooms
- 2 Bathrooms
- Large balcony
- Underfloor heating
- 24 Hour concierge
- Excellent transport links
- Approx 1,124 sq.ft
- Residents gym

£2,250 per calendar month
Furnished

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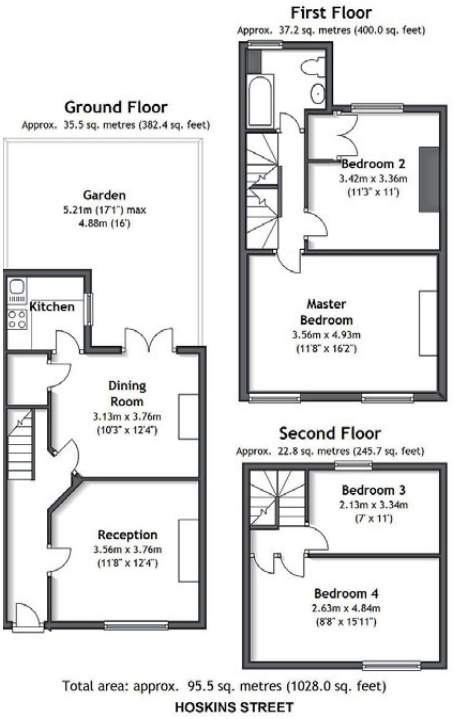

HOSKINS STREET, GREENWICH, SE10

FOUR BEDROOM HOUSE

- Large four bedroom house
- Built over three floors
- Separate living room to kitchen
- Concreted private garden
- Large dining room
- Minutes from Cutty Sark
- Greenwich Park nearby
- Perfect For Family or Students

The Broadway Theatre and the Catford Cat are well known sights in the area

Spotlight on... CATFORD

Malcolm Goes of Stanford Estates' new Catford office on why SE6 is the postcode to watch

Best Known For

The area is best known for the gigantic fibreglass cat above the entrance to the Catford Shopping Centre, a small shopping centre housing both supermarkets and independent shops. There's also The Broadway Theatre, a Grade II-listed building dating back to 1932. It's a great example of Art Deco design with a grand 800-seat main auditorium and an intimate studio.

Local Parks

Catford residents are spoilt for choice when it comes to green space with Mountsfield Park, which offers a wide range of recreational pursuits for the more energetic, including basketball, football and tennis; Blythe Hill Fields, a lovely park with amazing panoramic views over Canary Wharf, the City and Kent; and Ladywell Fields, made up of three fields with a river running through them and great for cycling, jogging and walking the dog.

Transport Links

The area is served by both Catford and Catford Bridge stations, meaning there are services to Blackfriars, Bromley South and Sevenoaks (from Catford station) as well as Charing Cross, Cannon Street, London Bridge, Waterloo East and Hayes (from Catford Bridge station). It has been highlighted in the Rail Utilisation Strategy as an area for capital infrastructure development in the medium term, specifically regarding the extension of the Bakerloo Line from Elephant and Castle through to Catford. TFL is also currently considering the extension of the DLR from Lewisham to Bromley, with the first phase planned to run between Lewisham and Catford. There are also plenty of bus routes towards central London and Bromley.

Stanford Estates has offices in Forest Hill (above), Honor Oak, Sydenham, Hither Green, Lee, Lewisham, Ladywell, Bellingham and Catford

The Property Market

You will get more for your money in Catford than in the neighbouring areas of Forest Hill, Hither Green and Ladywell. Culverley Green conservation area has avenues of large Victorian semis, the Corbett Estate has double-fronted terraces, and on Perry Hill you'll find more smaller 1930s Victorian terraces heading out towards Honor Oak and Ladywell. The average prices in Catford are £236,020 for a one-bedroom home, £322,853 for a two-bed, £438,267 for a three-bed and £566,304 for a four-bedroom house (source: zoopla.co.uk).

The Future

My director here at Stanford Estates, Ben Nicol, was a Catford resident for many years and has always said that it is one of the last places in London to be regenerated. But it's happening now, as Catford forms a major part of the multi-million pound Mayor's London Plan regeneration project and is set to become a vibrant new area to live, shop and relax. Part of this plan includes new housing being built by Barrett Homes overlooking Ladywell Fields, the redevelopment of the shopping centre (it is believed the cat will be staying) and a newly pedestrianised Broadway.

Contact Stanford Estates' Catford office on 020 8690 3656 or see stanfordestates.london

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Hither Green — OIEO £385,000

Two bedroom Victorian ground floor garden flat. Off street parking. Share of freehold. Conveniently located for Lewisham, Ladywell and Catford Stations.
EPC Rating - D

Contact David Meredith on 020 8297 8777

Catford — Guide Price £330,000 - £350,000

Excellently located for Catford main line stations is this modern style terrace house. Entrance hall, one reception, fitted kitchen, two bedrooms, fitted bathroom, downstairs WC, conservatory, OSP.
EPC Rating - D

Contact Lee Savigar on 020 8698 1234

New Eltham — OIEO £500,000

An immaculately presented three bedroom semi-detached house within walking distance of New Eltham station. Benefits include a modern kitchen/diner with bi-folding doors leading to decking area and garden, off street parking and a detached garage. EPC Rating - D

Contact Sarah or Max on 020 8859 9600

Catford — £1250 PCM fees apply

This truly stunning two bedroom luxury apartment located in one of Catford's premier roads within the Conservation Area and giving ease of access to stations.
EPC Rating - E

Contact Catford Lettings on 020 8698 1234

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Local experts for: Brockley, Catford, Eltham, Forest Hill, Hither Green, Kidbrooke, Lee, Lewisham, Mottingham, New Cross

Cookham Crescent, Canada Water

P.O.A.

EPC Rating - D

Contact Dan Carlisle on 020 7647 7711

A very well presented and versatile three storey, four bedroom 'LOVELL' built townhouse. Close to Central London in a tranquil canal-side cul-de-sac setting, currently maintained as a nature reserve for plant and bird life. Located in arguably one of the best locations within the Docklands Peninsula with views of trees, water and wildlife.

There are numerous transport options for Cookham Crescent; Rotherhithe Station is 0.2 miles away on the London Overground, while Canada Water is 0.3 miles away, on the Jubilee line just 1 stop from Canary Wharf.

Valuations | Sales | Mortgages | Conveyancing | Lettings

Devonshire Rd SE23

£415,000

Part of a well-maintained mansion block is this superb, 2 bedroom first floor flat.

EPC D

Montem Rd SE23 £925,000

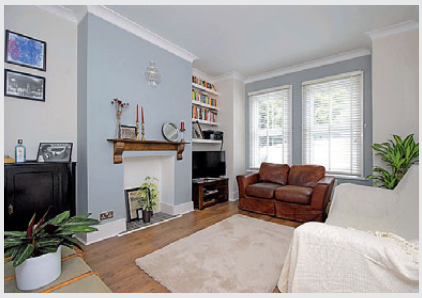
Bursting with period charm is this fantastic, 4 bedroom house with a 100' garden.

EPC F

Ladywell Rd SE13 £685,000

Located close to Ladywell station is this well-appointed, 3 bedroom period house.

EPC D



Sandrock Rd SE13 £525,000

Part of a double-fronted period property is this fantastic, 2 bedroom garden flat.

EPC D

Codrington Hill SE23 £475,000

This 3 bedroom flat covers the entire ground floor of a double-fronted property.

EPC D

Honor Oak Park SE23 £415,000

A spacious, 2 bedroom top floor flat with 2 reception rooms.

EPC E

Phoebeth Rd SE4 £2,000 pcm

This fantastic, 3 bedroom house boasts an extended kitchen-diner.

EPC E

Forest Hill Office
Sales: 020 8291 9441

Your property. Our priority.

PENZIAS HOUSE, MANOR WAY, BLACKHEATH, SE3

Situated in the highly sought after Blackheath Cator Estate comprising 282 acres just south of Blackheath Village is this unique and leading edge new development. Blackheath Village is located south east of Greenwich town centre and is a pretty and welcoming neighbourhood with a variety of architectural styles attracting young professionals as well as families alike. Blackheath schools are some of the best in the country. Its fantastic connections into London allow professionals to get into the City or Canary Wharf in less than half an hour. The village vibe offers a great social scene with an array of restaurants, pubs, bars and cafes as well as village style shopping. The O2 arena is only ten minutes away in North Greenwich and there is also the famous Blackheath Halls for a different range of classical, stand up comedy and live music.

Penzias House development boasts just 11 apartments ranging from 1 bedroom to 3 bedroom duplex penthouses all with a superior specification. Each apartment is unique in design and offers a number of features including contemporary high quality kitchens with granite worktops and integrated appliances, fully tiled bathrooms and en-suites, porcelain tiled flooring with underfloor heating and Richee lighting.

The gated development offers security entrance, secure underground and external parking and each apartment benefits from a further good sized storage room. A majority of the apartments have either a private terrace or balcony and in some cases more than one terrace. There is also a large communal garden to the rear.

Don't miss out on this fantastic opportunity, register your interest with us now...

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Brixton Sales
020 7274 2878

Call us 8am - 10pm everyday

Lifestyle in High Style

£600,000

Hayter Road, Brixton, SW2

Ref: 9153

Prepare to be amazed by this light and spacious split level Victorian two bedder conveniently set for excellent transport links including Brixton Tube Station as well as many other popular local amenities.

- Victorian Apartment
- Two Bedrooms
- Excellent Amenities
- Open Plan Living
- Modern Bathroom
- Chain Free

Smile and Dial Us!

Extremely Extravagant

£1,135,000

Coldharbour Lane, Brixton, SW9

Ref: 4836

A fabulous, semi detached, Victorian villa located within the conservation area boasting high ceilings and heaps of period charm.

- Victorian Villa
- Semi Detached
- Three Double Bedrooms
- Immaculate Rear Garden
- Three Bathrooms
- Off Street Parking

Book Your Viewing Now!

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Brixton Sales
020 7274 2878

Call us 8am - 10pm everyday

A Home to Share

Guide Price £470,000 to £500,000
Gaywood Close, Brixton, SW2
Ref: 9368

Excellent first home for a young family or for sharers is this modern end of terrace house which has a private rare garden. Additionally the property is located within easy walking distance of brilliant local amenities including Tulse Hill Station.

- Purpose Built House
- Three Bedrooms
- Fitted Kitchen
- Ample Storage Space
- Private Rear Garden
- Good Local Amenities

Book Now!

Welcome to Paradise

Guide Price £650,000 to £700,000
Nealden Street, Brixton, SW2
Ref: 9368

Spectacular two double bedroom Victorian Garden flat on the door step of Brixton High Street. Fashionable, modern living is in mind with this beautiful pad!

- Victorian Garden Flat
- Two Double Bedrooms
- Fitted Kitchen
- Style Bathroom Suite
- Private Garden
- Clapham North/Brixton

Open House

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Camberwell Sales
020 7703 2662

Call us 8am - 10pm everyday

Oh Wow!

OIEO £325,000

Elmtree House

Ref: 03752

This stylishly presented, modern, one bedroom flat can be found just behind Denmark Hill Camberwell Green provides ranging retail outlets supermarkets, some great restaurants, new public library, leisure centre, and great bus links to both the West End and the city. Should you prefer overground as your means of commute, then Denmark Hill is a short walk away. We suggest booking an appointment to view this property immediately... it's that good!

- Flat/Apartment
- One Bedroom
- Spacious Lounge
- Recently Fitted Kitchen
- Smart and Stylish
- Off Street Parking
- Transport Links Nearby

EPC Rating C

Call Camberwell

Smart and Convenient

£650,000

Kelly Avenue, SE15

Ref: 4749

Viewings are essential to appreciate this incredibly versatile house, that is ideal for entertainers and families. Built over four floors, the home is deceivingly spacious with over 2000sqft of internal space. Ideal for commuting with nearby bus links and access to Peckham Rye Station which has the East London line extension. A medical centre and chemist are also moments away and there is the choice of shopping on Rye Lane.

- Modern Townhouse
- Three Bedrooms
- Family Size Kitchen
- Open Plan Dining Room
- Great Size Reception Room
- En Suite To Master

EPC Rating C

Call Camberwell

haart

Crystal Palace Sales
020 8670 5845

Call us 8am - 10pm everyday

Something Special

Guide Price £475,000-£500,000
Crystal Palace Park Road, Crystal Palace, SE26
Ref: 7589

Prepare to be blown away due to living space within this two bedroom, two bathroom period maisonette due to the double height ceilings. Ideal for the most discerning of buyers this flat really does have the class and quality you have been searching for.

- Maisonette
- Period Conversion
- Two Bedroom
- High Ceilings
- Chain Free

EPC Rating C

Call Today

A Touch Of Elegance

Asking Price £825,000
Colby Road, Crystal Palace, SE19
Ref: 7487

What a beautiful Victorian semi detached house! It affords plenty of charm and character and is nestled close to Gipsy Hill Train Station and Dulwich Woods.

- Victorian Semi Detached House
- Four Bedrooms
- Exceptional Kitchen/Dining Room
- Fitted Kitchen
- Close To Gypsy Hill Station
- Chain Free

EPC Rating C

We Have Keys

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Dulwich Sales
020 8299 3728

Call us 8am - 10pm everyday

Exceptional Victorian Property

£935,000

Dunstans Road, SE22

Ref: 8583

An outstanding, four bedroom, two bathroom, Victorian terrace property, located in one of East Dulwich's most sought after locations, close to Dulwich Park and Peckham Rye Common/Park. Call haart to view this amazing, chain free property.

- Four Bedrooms
- Victorian Property
- Short Walk to Goodrich School
- Beautifully Maintained
- Two Bathrooms
- Sought After Location

EPC Rating C

Chain Free - Call Now

Delightful and Charming

£639,950

Copleston Road, SE15

Ref: 9005

A delightful, two bedroom, split level, conversion flat set within a handsome Victorian terraced house with its own private garden set in a desirable East Dulwich/Peckham Rye location. A must view.

- Split Level Conversion Flat
- Victorian Property
- Own Entrance
- High Ceilings
- Great Finish
- Brilliant Location

EPC Rating C

Call haart Dulwich

haart

Dulwich Sales
020 8299 3728

Call us 8am - 10pm everyday

Sleek and Sophisticated

£495,000

Dunstans Road, SE22

Ref: 8399

Look no more, we have the perfect, two bedroom apartment in East Dulwich, this wonderful property is polished to the highest of standards.

- Two Bedrooms
- Bright Period Conversion
- Beautifully Styled
- Ready To Move In
- First Floor
- Great Location

EPC Rating C

Pick up the phone and call us

Relax In Style

£475,000

Dunstans Road, SE22

A wonderful, two bedroom apartment in a superb East Dulwich location. This lovingly cared for property is a must view. There is access from the property to a generous shared garden.

- Split Level Apartment
- Victorian Period Conversion
- Generous Shared Garden
- Share of Freehold
- Well Presented
- Two Double Bedrooms

EPC Rating C

Call haart Dulwich to view

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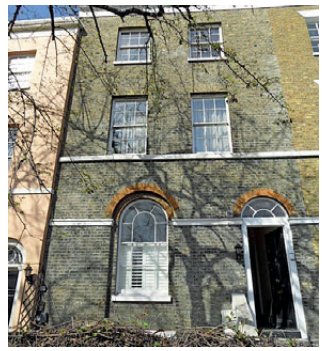
Guildford Grove SE10
£1350 PCM furnished 1 bedroom flat

A delightful 1 bedroom raised ground floor flat in desirable Ashburnham Triangle and within 5 mins walk from Greenwich mainline and DLR stations. Comprises double bedroom, lounge with feature fire place, shower room, kitchen with breakfast bar. Property benefits from fresh neutral décor and laminate flooring.

Blackheath Road SE10
£1850 PCM unfurnished 3 bedroom 2 bathroom flat



Very well maintained three bedroom conversion flat arranged over the top two floors of an impressive Victorian house. Situated 5 mins walk from Deptford Bridge and Greenwich DLR and mainline stations. Master bedroom with ensuite shower room, 2 further bedrooms (1 single 1 double), large lounge, well fitted and equipped kitchen/breakfast room, family bathroom with shower over the bath. Wood floors throughout.

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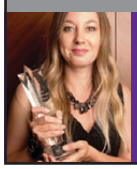

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PROPERTY *NEWS*

Your update on London's homes & interiors

WOOLWICH RISING

The first homes to be constructed above a new Crossrail station have been completed by Berkeley Homes Royal Arsenal, Woolwich. More than 1,000 homes will be built above the station as part of two separate developments; one by Berkeley Homes and another by Crossrail. Berkeley Homes' Cannon Square scheme comprises 631 apartments over five buildings, with Crossrail's Armourer's Court due to add a further 394. Royal Arsenal Riverside is a £1.2 billion project to create 5,000 new homes plus restaurants, bars, shops, leisure facilities, parkland and broad squares. From 2018, up to 12 Crossrail trains an hour will mean fast and direct access to destinations such as Canary Wharf (8 minutes), Liverpool Street (14 minutes) and Bond Street (20 minutes).

Homes at Royal Arsenal Riverside are on the market for £372,500–£1,850,000
See berkeleygroup.co.uk

Charlton heights

This beautifully extended three-bedroom property on The Heights, Charlton SE7, is bright and contemporary with a large landscaped rear garden. The house has two reception rooms and a fabulous dining room that's perfect for entertaining. There's a driveway with room for two cars to the front and Charlton Station is less than a 10-minute walk away.

On the market with Peter James Estates for £575,000 on 020 8858 2555

Space, a large garden and convenience – this family home ticks a lot of boxes

This home has plenty of character and space to entertain

Greenwich charm

Located on Annandale Road, Greenwich SE10, this imposing five-bedroom detached home has plenty of charm, character and original features. Laid out over four floors, the authentic Victorian property offers lots of natural light and space to entertain both inside and out, with a large reception/dining room featuring bay windows to the front and side, as well as a kitchen/diner overlooking the mature rear garden. There is also a versatile media room, utility room, downstairs shower room and garage.

On the market with JLL for a guide price of £1,475,000 (freehold)

Call 020 8712 6596 or see jll.co.uk/residential

EAST DULWICH CONVENIENCE

A new architecture-led development in East Dulwich is soon to bring five four-storey, four-bedroom townhouses with lofts and basements to the market. The homes have been created to mimic the surrounding Victorian terraces of Upland Road with architectural elements including front porches, window boxes and timber rainscreens. The development also includes four sensitively restored apartments within a double-fronted Victorian villa. Neil Mansfield, Head of New Homes at BNP Paribas Real Estate, says: 'The attention to detail in this development is extraordinary – the developers have really thought about the local community and their target market with this design. It is aimed at owner-occupiers and not nameless investors.'

See thestationdulwich.co.uk

PENNY LANE

According to a new study by Barclays Mortgages, whether you live on a road, street or lane could affect your home's value. The word 'lane' is the most valuable address, with an average house price of £245,906, followed by 'way' (£218,742), 'road' (£212,717), 'close' (£204,374), 'avenue' (£192,344) and 'street' (£142,374). But heed the advice of Leaders' National Sales Director, Kevin Shaw, who says, 'Averages can never give you a precise picture and each home has its own unique value based on its exact location, condition and distinctive features.'

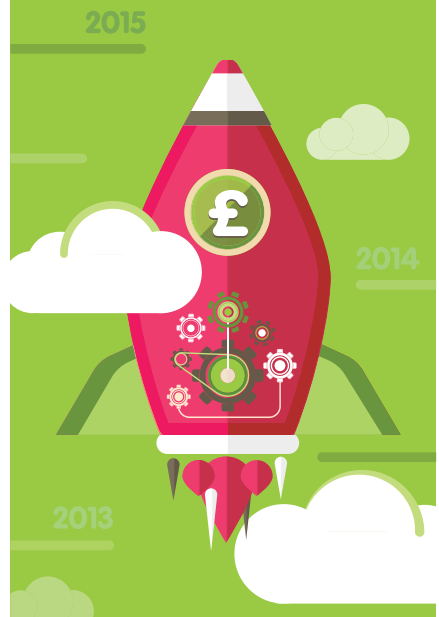
streets ahead
ESTATE AGENTS

Crystal Palace, SW19 **£1,275,000**

IN SHORT : *6 BEDROOMS // 2700SQFT LIVING SPACE // VIEWS OF NORWOOD LAKE*

Outstanding six bedroom semi-detached period family house set on this hugely popular tree-lined road. Offering over 2700sqft living accommodation with features including 19ft reception, study, kitchen diner, parking and 100ft garden backing onto Norwood Lakes.

The **value** of your home could be **soaring in 2015?**



Your home may have increased in value by 20%?*

streets ahead
ESTATE AGENTS

*London property price increase over 3 years. Office of National Statistics.

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Crystal Palace

Tel. 020 8653 9222

Crystal Palace, SE19 **£530,000**

Superb three bedroom apartment occupying the hall floor of this detached impressive Period house. Features include high ceilings, kitchen diner and private garden.

Crystal Palace, SE19 **£450,000**

Amazing two bedroom split level apartment set within this magnificent grade II listed building. Features include 20ft lounge, kitchen diner, parking and share of freehold.

Crystal Palace, SE19 **£325,000**

Elegant selection of newly built 1 and 2 bed apartments set on the ever so popular Church Road in Crystal Palace with prices from £325K

Crystal Palace, SE19 **£550,000**

Delightful three bedroom detached family home set on this popular residential road in Upper Norwood. Features include kitchen diner, utility room and off street parking.

Crystal Palace, SE19 **£1,600 pcm**

Fantastic two bedroom furnished garden flat in the heart of Crystal Palace. Very rarely available. Perfect for a professional couple.

Crystal Palace, SE19 **£2,200 pcm**

Executive three bedroom family home in excellent condition. Benefits include spacious modern kitchen, large garden and garage. Managed by Streets Ahead.

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Selsdon Road
Croydon, CR2 6PW

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Coulsdon,
CR5 2ND

Purley
936 Brighton Road
Purley,
CR8 2LP

Crystal Palace
4-8 Westow Street
Crystal Palace,
SE19 3AH

*www.*streetsahead*.info*

Consider an autumnal makeover with golden tones, and make sure your home is warm and welcoming

IN SEASON

Gary O'Hare, Director of Streets Ahead Estate Agents, on why autumn is the best time to sell your home

Early autumn is one of the best times of year to sell your house – with the summer holidays over and Christmas still a dot on the horizon, demand from prospective buyers rises sharply.

The property market in the south east and greater London in particular is buoyant right now, and analysts say the upward second-quarter trend – in both sales and house prices – is likely to continue into the final half of the year.

So it's a good time to put the For Sale sign up. But to make sure you clinch a sale during this busy season, here are just a few things to consider about selling in the autumn. The colours of the season present a fantastic opportunity to take some stunning photographs of your home. Make the most of the opportunity by using a quality camera or hiring a professional photographer to ensure you get the result you want. In most cases, the estate agent can organise this for you.

Remember that winter is only a matter of weeks away, so attend to any exterior home improvements without delay – bad weather can quickly make mouldy or flaking paintwork look disastrous to viewers. You should also check for any defects on your roof and clear your gutters of leaves once a week.

De-clutter and de-personalise. At the end of summer, remember to tidy the barbecue and the garden furniture away into storage. Even if you live in a flat, it's worth tidying up any outside space. The same applies inside – a good tidy-up and clean will stand you in good stead for photographs and viewings. Invest in a professional carpet clean or hire a carpet cleaner.

Winter is only weeks away, so attend to any exterior improvements without delay

To freshen up the look of your rooms, maximise on the season and consider a simple interior design makeover. Warm autumnal colours such as terracotta and chocolate browns are perennially popular. Gold and raw materials such as wood and stone are also on trend this season. Apply accent colours on walls, cushions and picture frames to give you the look without breaking the bank.

With the darker evenings, it's worth trying to arrange viewings during daylight hours. That way your viewers will see your property in all of its naturally lit glory. If daylight viewing isn't an option, think about your lighting. New lightbulbs will give out more light, helping your viewers to appreciate every corner of your property. Natural daylight bulbs are good for rooms with big windows while softer, gold tones evoke a welcoming atmosphere. Think about what you want viewers to 'feel' when they enter a room – spacious, warm or bright – and select bulbs to suit each room. If you use energy saving bulbs, turn them on well in advance to warm up.

As temperatures start to drop, turn the heating on half an hour before any viewings to take the chill off any rooms. Better still, if you have a real fire, get it crackling away. It might just do the trick.

For further information see streetsahead.info

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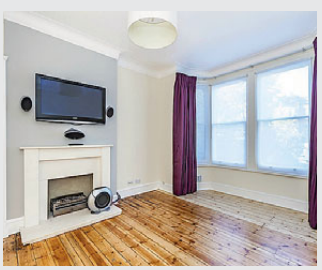
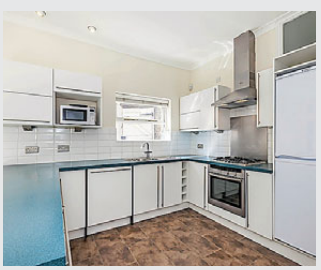
Langton Way, Blackheath, London SE3 £1,400,000 Freehold
A spacious, four bedroom family home situated on this sought after, private road. **EPC:E**

Wilderness Road, Chislehurst, Kent BR7 OIEO £550,000 Leasehold
Stunning one bedroom flat on, arguably, Chislehurst's finest private road.
EPC:D

Eliot Hill, Blackheath, London SE3 £450 per week*
A delightful two bedroom conversion offered in fantastic decorative order throughout. **EPC:E**





Glenluce Road, Blackheath, London SE3 £865 per week*
An extremely well presented Victorian family home. **EPC:E**

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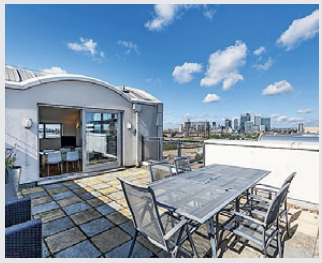

Metcalfe Court, Greenwich Millennium Village, Greenwich SE10
£725,000 Asking Price
A stunning 2 bedroom penthouse with terrace and parking. **EPC:B**

Greenwich South Street, Greenwich SE10 £1,000,000 Offers In Excess Of
A 4 bedroom period house with contemporary decor and garden. **EPC:D**

Crooms Hill, Greenwich SE10 £1,212 per week*
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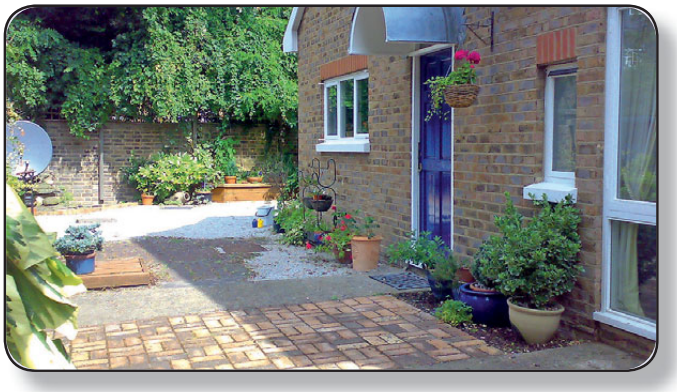
Meadowcourt Road, Blackheath, SE3 £1800pcm

An Amazing two bedroom two bathroom penthouse apartment in this modern gated development within walking distance of Blackheath Village. Open plan lounge/diner with door to small balcony, quality fitted kitchen with integrated appliances and granite work tops. secure parking, lift, pretty communal grounds, GCH and double glazing

Paragon House, Blackheath, SE3 £1500pcm

A superb spacious first floor one bedroom conversion in this fabulous Grade II listed building fronting the heath. The apartment has recently undergone some refurbishment and offers light spacious accommodation. Large lounge/diner wood flooring, high ceiling, open plan new fitted kitchen, bathroom w/c with shower facility. Communal garden



Kidbrooke Grove, Blackheath, SE3 £2400pcm

A super architect designed three bedroom detached cottage situated in a delightful tree lined road within walking distance of Blackheath Village and Greenwich Park. Fully fitted kitchen, 20ft reception room with patio door to garden, second reception room. Bathroom with separate shower cubical and second w/c. Landscaped garden to rear.

Lee Road, Blackheath, SE3 £1750pcm

A delight to offer this recently refurbished three bedroom house within a short 5 minute walk of Blackheath Village and mainline station. Lounge with dividing doors to dining room with patio doors on to the pretty well maintained garden. Good size new fully fitted and well equipped kitchen with door to garden. Bathroom with shower facility over bath, sep w/c.

Wilbrooke Place, Blackheath, SE3 £1750pcm

A superb two double bedroom two bathroom end of terrace house situated within walking distance of the open heath and Blackheath Village. Lounge/diner with double doors to private garden, large well fitted and equipped kitchen/diner, D/s w/c Gas central heating, off street parking, built in wardrobes, garden.

Kidbrooke Grove, Blackheath, SE3 £2795pcm

A very large well presented conversion flat occupying the whole hall floor of this charming period detached house. High ceilings, large rooms, wood floors, feature fire place, beautiful new fully fitted kitchen breakfast room , family size bathroom w/c with shower facility, utility room and access to pretty communal gardens.

heath
ESTATES

Bennett Park, Blackheath Village, SE3 Guide price £650,000 Freehold

A fabulous rarely available two bedroom Victorian coach house situated in the heart of Blackheath Village. Offering as vast array of quality shops and restaurants and the ever popular Sunday farmers market. An easy commute to both the city and canary wharf by Blackheath BR station and link to the DLR. The property has been tastefully refurbished to a high standard with solid oak flooring throughout, kitchen/dining room with high gloss units & integrated stainless steel appliances and granite worktops. Fully tiled shower room with a contemporary suite. Good size master bedroom, second good size single. Private off street parking space to the front and private paved south west facing rear garden.

23 Montpelier Vale, Blackheath, London SE3 0TJ Tel: 020 8463 9955

CAPITAL APPRECIATION

Is bricks and mortar the way to go when it comes to investment, or do other luxury assets have the edge?

Words KAREN TAIT

With the gap between property prices in London and the rest of the UK growing ever wider, is investing in bricks and mortar in the capital the way to go or are there better vehicles for your money?

In a report by Savills of top investment assets over the past 25 years, prime central London (PCL) house prices recorded the highest increase across all asset classes, with values rising by a huge 523%.

In comparison, the average return for a house in the rest of the UK has been 205% – about the same as investing in art, with the Art 100 index recording growth of 200% over the same 25-year period.

Art, cars and jewellery require a degree of speciality that is less intrinsic than property

Farmland has proved a safe investment, even in a recession – average values have not fallen since 2003 and have increased on average by 105% in the six years since September 2007.

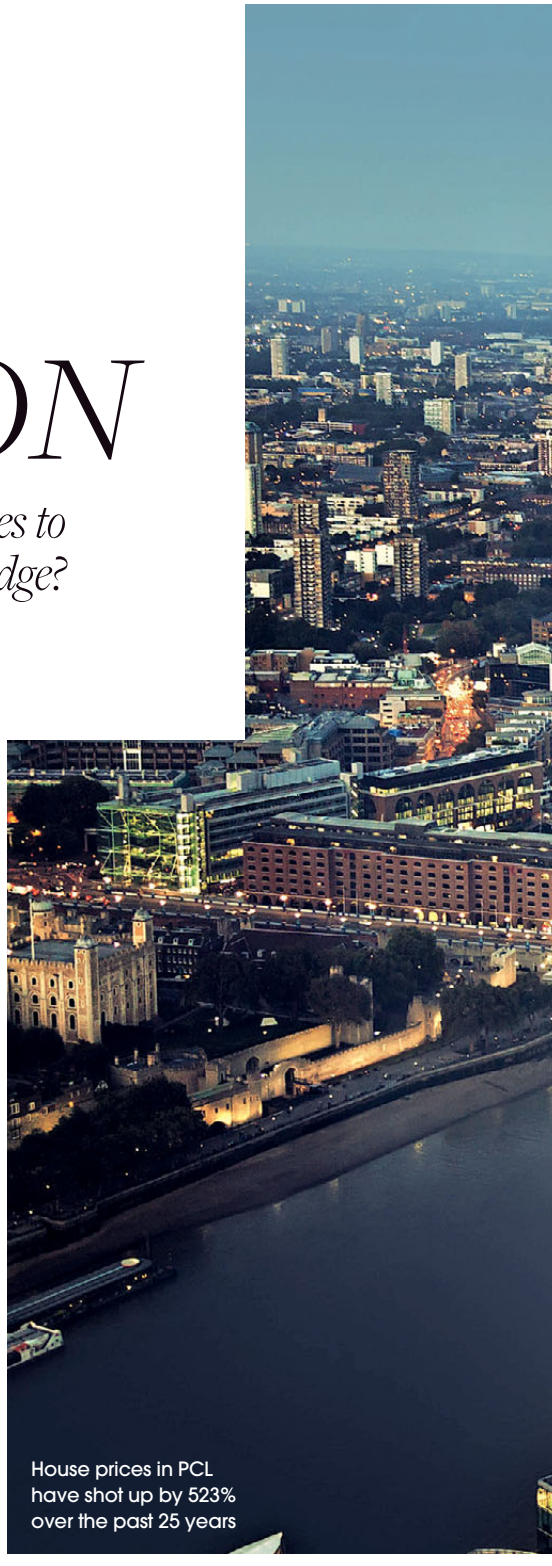
'Over this 25-year period, there has been a huge variation in the performance of individual asset classes,' explains Sophie Chick of Savills' research department. 'The strongest growth has been in PCL house prices. This reflects the fact that demand is primarily driven by global wealth attracted to a political and economic safe haven – although culturally diverse, this also has a strong investment track record.

'As the search for safe stores of wealth continues, a variety of asset classes will benefit,' she adds. 'Investment credentials are only part of the picture; the amenity enjoyed by the owners of art and property is far less tangible but potentially more valuable.'

There's no doubt that London's safe haven status has been a catalyst for driving prices up. 'It's of little surprise that global geo-political tensions in a particular country typically result in an influx of buyers from that hotspot,' comments Cory Askew of Chestertons. 'The reason is two-fold: the historic political and economic stability of the UK, and then more specifically, the historic stability of the London property market. Art, cars and jewellery, whilst sound investments, do require a degree of speciality and knowledge that is less intrinsic than the simplicity of property.

'Whatever one's investment tastes, the risk is generally mitigated by the amount of time the asset is held,' he adds. 'Naturally, therefore, if your asset can generate hard cash (i.e. a rental income) whilst appreciating over time, your risk is further mitigated.'

Stephanie McMahon, Head of Research at Strutt & Parker, points out that 'property is a relatively illiquid asset which is expensive to transact; due to the undersupplied market it generally performs best under a longer term hold.



House prices in PCL have shot up by 523% over the past 25 years

'London residential property has performed extremely well, even in the recent past,' she adds. 'Looking at the IPD UK Residential Investment Digest in 2014, we can see that annualised over three, five and 10 years, Inner London Total Returns have generated growth of 11.6%, 12.5% and 11.0% respectively.'

What if you wish to diversify your investments – and have a little fun along the way? Petrolheads will be delighted to

25-YEAR CAPITAL VALUE GROWTH FOR INVESTMENT ASSETS

523%
Prime Central London House Prices

435%
Classic Cars

397%
Farmland

205%
UK House Prices

200%
Art 100

-6%
18th-Century Furniture

Source: Savills Residential Research, Art Market Research, Nationwide

learn that the 'real winners' over the past six years, according to Savills, have been classic cars, recording a staggering growth of 135%.

The Knight Frank Wealth Report 2015 also lists classic cars as the top investment. 'Classic cars have been the strongest performer over both the long and short-term, with the value of the HAGI (Historical Automobile Group) Top Index rising by an astounding 487% over the past 10 years and growing 16% in 2014,' says Andrew Shirley, Editor of the Wealth Report. Hot on their heels – or should that be wheels – are diamonds and art, both with annual growth of 15%.

When it comes to who's spending the most on these luxury items, the UK tops The Wealth Report's new Big Spenders Index, underlining the importance of the UK for luxury brands, which sold over £8bn of goods in the country last year.

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£1,850,000 Freehold

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An absolutely stunning five double bedroom three storey semi-detached period house.

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Austin Avenue, Bromley, BR2

£3,900 PCM

A stunning five double bedroom double fronted detached family home.

Burgos Grove, Greenwich, SE10

£2,300 PCM

A superb three bedroom three storey Victorian terraced house which is located on this quiet road.

Collins Street, Blackheath, SE3

£2,250 PCM

A two bedroom Victorian terraced house located in the heart of Blackheath Village and moments from the station.

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OIEO £1,600,000

A four bedroom, three reception room, three bathroom detached home with a 100ft garden.

West Grove, Greenwich, SE10

£1,500,000 Freehold

A rare three bedroom split level apartment, measuring 2,115sq ft set in a delightful Georgian terrace.

Northfield Close, Bickley, BR1

£1,400,000 Freehold

A beautifully presented detached family home set in this quiet close.

Nevada Street, Greenwich, SE10

£1,250,000 Freehold

A three bedroom four storey house that lies on this small road opposite the Theatre in central Greenwich.

THIS YEAR WINKWORTH HAVE SOLD MORE PROPERTY OVER £1M IN THE BLACKHEATH AND GREENWICH AREA THAN ANY OTHER AGENT*

In fact, over a quarter of all properties sold, worth £1m or more, were sold through Winkworth.

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*Areas covered SE10 0, SE13 5, SE3 0, SE3 7, SE3 8, SE3 9, SE12 1, SE12 8, SE13 7.
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Price £1,500,000 Freehold

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- Four Bedrooms
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- One Bathroom
- EPC rating: D

Blackheath Village on **020 8318 1311**

Hervey Road, Blackheath SE3
Price £999,995 Leasehold

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- Five Bedrooms
- Two Bathrooms
- 130ft Rear Garden
- EPC rating: D

Blackheath Standard on **020 8858 6101**

Taunton Road, Lee SE12
Price £750,000 Freehold

An extended three bedroom Victorian semi-detached home situated in the popular Lee Manor conservation area opposite Manor House Gardens.

- Three Bedrooms
- Two Receptions
- One Bathroom
- EPC rating: E

Lee office on **020 8852 8633**

Shooters Hill Road, Blackheath SE3
Price £475,000 Leasehold

An exceptionally light and airy top floor conversion flat situated on Shooters Hill Road with easy access to both Blackheath Village and Blackheath Standard.

- Two Bedrooms
- One Reception
- One Bathroom
- EPC rating: E

Blackheath Standard on **020 8858 6101**

John Payne

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London Stock Exchange Group 1000 COMPANIES TO INSPIRE BRITAIN 2015

Kidbrooke Grove, Blackheath SE3
£1,900 per calendar month

Stylish three bedroom top floor conversion flat with contemporary interior finished to a high standard. Large kitchen, en-suite and 17ft reception.

- Private Entrance
- Off Road Parking
- Two Bathrooms
- EPC rating: E

Blackheath Village on **020 8318 1311**

Parkside, Blackheath SE3
£1,650 per calendar month

A highly well presented two double bedroom top floor apartment within walking distance of both Blackheath and Greenwich.

- Redecorated
- Fantastic Location
- Garage En Block
- EPC rating: E

Blackheath Standard on **020 8858 6101**

Burnt Ash Road, Lee SE12
£1,650 per calendar month

Neutral three bedroom town house featuring a garden room and spacious accommodation throughout. Ideally located close to local schools.

- Three Bedroom
- Two Bathrooms
- Unfurnished
- EPC rating: D

Lee office on **020 8852 8633**

Westgrove Lane, Greenwich SE10
£3,500 per calendar month

A rare opportunity to rent this fabulous period detached house on a private road. Located just a short walk to Greenwich Royal Park.

- Three Bedrooms
- Three Bathrooms
- Fabulous Location
- EPC rating: E

Greenwich on **020 8858 9911**

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